This is a unique reloading/information manual. It contains currently available data regarding loading information for this individual cartridge. This data is compiled from the leading U.S. Bullet and gunpowder manufacturers.

This manual is not intended to replace the many comprehensive, in-depth reloading manuals available from a host of publishers, but instead provide you with a quick and easy-to-use reference source which will enable you to compare loads, types of powders, bullets and shot charges for components you may have on hand.

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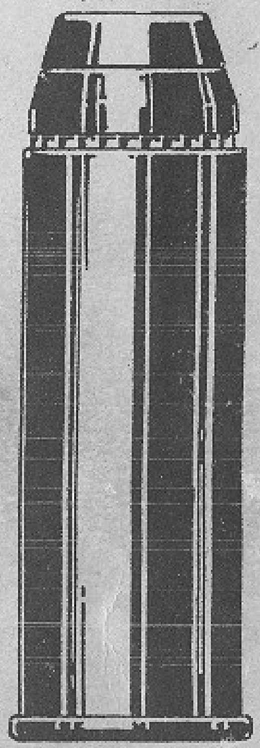
2000 EDITION

The Complete Reloading Manual for the .45 Colt



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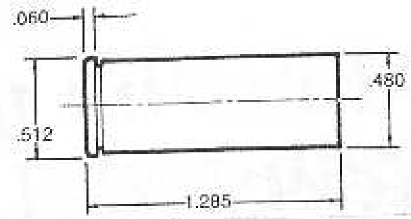


45 LONG COLT (Ruger & T/C Only)

PISTOL: T/C CONTENDER
BARREL: 10", 1 in 22" TWIST
CASE: WINCHESTER
PRIMER: WINCHESTER WLP

BULLET DIAMETER: .452"
MAXIMUM C.O.L.: 1.600"
MAX. CASE LENGTH: 1.285"
CASE TRIM LENGTH: 1.275"

The following data is to be used only in the T/C or the Ruger Blackhawk. The pressures of the loading data that follow are above acceptable and safe limits permissible in earlier 45 Colt revolvers or their replicas. *Therefore this data should not be used in these firearms.* However, it probably can safely be used in the Marlin 1894S or the Winchester Model 94 rifles produced in 45 Colt.

The loads that follow are for the handgun hunter or metallic silhouette shooter. If loads are desired for the 200 grain LSWC, the data for the standard 45 Long Colt should be used. 2400 and IMR 4227 produced the best results with our firearm. Note: When loading for the Ruger Blackhawk, a heavy crimp is necessary to prevent bullets from sliding out of the case during recoil.

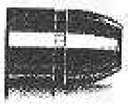
SHOOTER'S LOG

(RUGER & T/C ONLY)

250 GRAIN BULLETS:

SECTIONAL DENSITY: .175
DIAMETER: .452"

#45200 HP/XTP
Ballistic Coefficient — .146
C.O.L. — 1.595"



POWDER	VELOCITY						
	1050 fps	1100 fps	1150 fps	1200 fps	1250 fps	1300 fps	1350 fps
AA #9	14.8 gr.	15.4 gr.	16.0 gr.	16.6 gr.	17.2 gr.	▨ 17.8 gr.	
2400	14.9 gr.	15.5 gr.	16.2 gr.	16.8 gr.	▨ 17.5 gr.		
H4227	17.2 gr.	17.9 gr.	18.6 gr.	19.3 gr.	20.0 gr.	20.7 gr.	▨ 21.4 gr.
MP 5744	19.0 gr.	19.9 gr.	20.8 gr.	21.7 gr.	▨ 22.6 gr.		
IMR 4227	19.7 gr.	20.6 gr.	21.5 gr.	22.4 gr.	23.3 gr.	▨ 24.2 gr.	

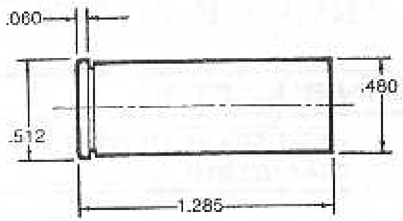
300 GRAIN BULLETS:

SECTIONAL DENSITY: .210
DIAMETER: .452"

#45230 HP/XTP
Ballistic Coefficient — .180
C.O.L. — 1.585"

POWDER	VELOCITY						
	1000 fps	1050 fps	1100 fps -	1150 fps	1200 fps	1250 fps	1300 fps
2400	14.3 gr.	14.8 gr.	15.4 gr.	▨ 15.9 gr.			
AA #9	13.6 gr.	14.4 gr.	15.2 gr.	▨ 16.0 gr.			
H4227	15.7 gr.	16.4 gr.	17.2 gr.	18.0 gr.	▨ 18.7 gr.		
WIN 296			17.3 gr.	18.3 gr.	19.3 gr.	20.3 gr.	▨ 21.3 gr.
IMR 4227	17.9 gr.	18.7 gr.	19.5 gr.	20.2 gr.	▨ 21.0 gr.		
MP 5744	18.4 gr.	19.1 gr.	19.7 gr.	20.4 gr.	▨ 21.0 gr.		

▨ Indicates maximum load - use with caution



45 LONG COLT

PISTOL: RUGER BISLEY BLACKHAWK
BARREL: 7½", 1 in 16" TWIST
CASE: WINCHESTER
PRIMER: WINCHESTER WLR

BULLET DIA.: .451"-.452"
MAXIMUM C.O.L.: 1.600"
MAX. CASE LENGTH: 1.285"
CASE TRIM LENGTH: 1.275"

This century old cartridge was originally chambered in Colt's famous Peacemaker,and enjoyed an illustrious career in the Old West. It declined in favor as double action revolvers came to dominate the handgun scene, but has managed to recapture shooter interest as single actions have staged a comeback. It is also currently chambered in Winchester M94 and Marlin 1894S lever actions.

The 45 Colt (or sometimes the 45 Long Colt) cartridge has been loaded since 1873 with various amounts of black and smokeless powders and bullets of different weights and designs.

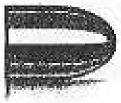
Shooting jacketed Hornady pistol bullets in the 45 Colt, we were able to reach (and safely!) 950 fps with our 250 gr. HP/XTP and Accurate Arms excellent #9 pistol powder. At such a velocity the big Long Colt slug carries 500 ft.-lbs. of muzzle energy, substantial performance from a cartridge so ancient. We definitely do not recommend a steady diet of such steamy loads in most single actions, for they do tend to loosen things up inside. And of course we never recommend that any shooter with any firearm start with the maximum listed load; top loads must be worked up carefully to insure that they'll be safe with the components and firearm the shooter is using.

This data can be used in older Colts in good condition and replica reproduction models from other manufacturers.

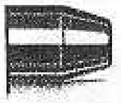
230 GRAIN BULLETS:

SECTIONAL DENSITY: .162
DIAMETER: .451"

#4517 FMJ-RN
Ballistic Coefficient — .184
C.O.L. — 1.600"



#4518 FMJ-FP
Ballistic Coefficient — .168
C.O.L. — 1.550"



	VELOCITY					
POWDER	800 fps	850 fps	900 fps	950 fps	1000 fps	1050 fps
700-X	5.5 gr.	6.0 gr.	6.5 gr.			
Bullseye	6.2 gr.	6.5 gr.	6.8 gr.			
Unique	7.5 gr.	7.8 gr.	8.2 gr.	8.5 gr.		
2400	13.2 gr.	13.5 gr.	13.8 gr.	14.2 gr.	14.6 gr.	14.9 gr.
AA #9		14.3 gr.	14.8 gr.	15.3 gr.	15.8 gr.	16.3 gr.
WIN 296	16.0 gr.	16.4 gr.	16.8 gr.	17.3 gr.	17.7 gr.	18.2 gr.
IMR 4227	16.5 gr.	17.0 gr.	17.6 gr.	18.1 gr.	18.7 gr.	
MP 5744		16.1 gr.	17.5 gr.	18.7 gr.		

▨ Indicates maximum load - use with caution

45 Colt

By Hank Williams Jr.

The .45 Colt is one of four of the most famous American cartridges of all time (.45 Colt, .45-70, .45 ACP, .30-06), and its legendary status is well deserved.

It conjures up images from the Little Big Horn to the Rhine. It can be the Yukon.

Loaded to roar like a lion with the old original L/O grain black-powder, (or purr like a kitten with a powder such as W 231), it is the father of the .454 Casull.

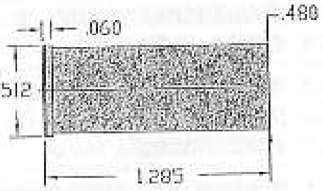
It can be wonderfully accurate. The most important thing about reloading the .45 Colt for accuracy is the dimension of your cylinder throats. They must not be over .452 for jacketed bullets. If your cylinder is oversize, send it back to the manufacturer and ask for a cylinder with .452 throats. They will be glad to help, as they are aware of this.

I know Unique is the old standard powder and it is accurate, but there are cleaner powders just as accurate.

Hank is a singer/songwriter and admirer of Colt Single Action Army revolvers.

45 Colt (SAA & Replicas)

Test Information



RIFLE:	Barrel:	Douglas
	Length:	7.25"
	Twist:	1-16"
CASE:		Winchester
PRIMER:		Rem. 2½

Comments from the lab

The .45 Colt has been around long enough (nearly 125 years) to have outlived many different firearm designs. For this reason, we list two sets of data for this cartridge.

The data listed here was developed specifically to meet the needs of the Colt Single Action Army revolver, and replicas. There is a strong propensity among reloaders to load this round beyond the strength limits of the firearm.

Do not exceed the maximum charge weights listed here unless you are shooting a Ruger, or a T/C Contender.

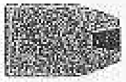
If you have an older firearm, or are unsure as to the condition of your firearm, we strongly recommend having it thoroughly inspected by a competent gunsmith before use.

As always with a revolver cartridge, we recommend a good roll crimp to hold the bullet in place, and help achieve consistent ignition. We have had great results with the following procedure:

- Seat the bullet to where you can just see the top edge of the cannelure.
- Adjust your crimp so that the case mouth is deforming the ridges in the cannelure and biting clear to the bottom of the groove.

Nosler

250 Grain



250 gr.
Hollow Point

Ballistic Coefficient	.177
Sectional Density	.178

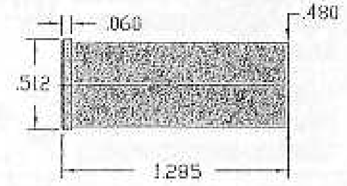
**Most Accurate Load Tested*
***Compressed Load*

Powder		*Charge Weight in Grains*	*Muzzle Velocity (fps)*	*Load Density*
W 231 *(Most Accurate Powder Tested)*	*Max.*	6.9*	748 fps	28%
		6.4	663 fps	26%
		5.9	578 fps	24%
HP 38	*Max.*	6.7	712 fps	28%
		6.2	647 fps	26%
		5.7*	582 fps	23%
HERCO	*Max.*	8.1	802 fps	33%
		7.6	737 fps	31%
		7.1*	672 fps	29%
AA-No. 5	*Max.*	9.8*	740 fps	40%
		9.3	680 fps	38%
		8.8	620 fps	36%
HS 6	*Max.*	9.8*	742 fps	40%
		9.3	677 fps	38%
		8.8	612 fps	36%
BLUE DOT	*Max.*	11.4	800 fps	47%
		10.9	750 fps	45%
		10.4*	700 fps	43%
HS 7	*Max.*	12.1	840 fps	50%
		11.6	800 fps	48%
		11.1*	760 fps	46%
IMR 4227	*Max.*	17.5*	810 fps	72%
		17.0	780 fps	70%
		16.5	750 fps	68%

Use Maximum Loads with Caution

45 Colt (Ruger & T/C Contenders)

Test Information



RIFLE:	Barrel:	Douglas
	Length:	7.25"
	Twist:	1-16"
CASE:		Winchester
PRIMER:		Win. WLP

Comments from the lab

Do not use the loads listed here in any firearms other than Thompson/Center Contenders, or Ruger revolvers. These loads are several grains greater in charge weight than loads listed previously for other revolvers chambered for the .45 Colt.

Most modern firearms chambered for the .45 Colt are stronger than the original revolvers, but are not strong enough to be used with these loads.

As always when loading for a revolver cartridge, and especially with these higher pressure loadings, a heavy roll crimp is necessary to help achieve consistent ignition. We have had great results with the following procedure:

- Seat the bullet to where you can just see the top edge of the cannelure.
- Adjust your crimp so that the case mouth is deforming the ridges in the cannelure and biting clear to the bottom of the groove.

Nosler®

250 Grain

250 gr.
Hollow Point

*Most Accurate Load Tested
**Compressed Load

Ballistic Coefficient	.177
Sectional Density	.178

Powder	Charge Weight in Grains	Muzzle Velocity (fps)	Load Density
W 231	*Max.* 10.0	1078 fps	34%
	9.5	1030 fps	32%
	9.0*	981 fps	31%
UNIQUE	*Max.* 11.3	1159 fps	39%
	10.8	1116 fps	37%
	10.3*	1072 fps	35%
800 X	*Max.* 13.8	1273 fps	47%
	13.3	1224 fps	45%
	12.8*	1176 fps	44%
WAP	*Max.* 12.3*	1019 fps	42%
	11.8	964 fps	40%
	11.3	910 fps	39%
AA-No. 5	*Max.* 12.0*	933 fps	41%
	11.5	876 fps	39%
	11.0	820 fps	38%
HS 7	*Max.* 17.0	1281 fps	58%
	16.5	1235 fps	56%
	16.0*	1188 fps	55%
AA-No. 7	*Max.* 15.0	968 fps	51%
	14.5	897 fps	49%
	14.0*	827 fps	48%
2400 *(Most Accurate Powder Tested)*	*Max.* 20.0*	1103 fps	68%
	19.5	1075 fps	67%
	19.0	1043 fps	65%
IMR 4227	*Max.* 25.0*	1119 fps	85%
	24.5	1087 fps	84%
	24.0	1056 fps	82%

Use Maximum Loads with Caution

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So don't be bashful, go ahead and give us a call.

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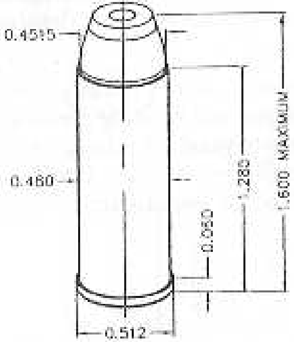
The Bulletsmiths®

45 Colt (Colt SAA revolvers and replicas)



Test Specifications

Firearm Used: Colt Single Action

Bbl. Length/Twist: 5 1/2"/1x16"

Test Components

Cases: Winchester

Trim-to Length: 1.280"

Primers: CCI-300

Remarks:

Few cartridges have as colorful a history as the .45 Colt. Originally developed in 1873 for use in the new Colt Single Action Army (SAA), the .45 Colt continued as our standard service cartridge (officially, unofficially, and with slight variations) until the adoption of the .45 ACP in 1911. That however, is not the whole story. Originally loaded with 40 grains of black powder and a 250 grain lead bullet, the big Colt produced close to 900 fps. These impressive figures made the .45 Colt one of the most powerful factory cartridges ever chambered in a U.S. revolver. Naturally, it quickly developed an excellent reputation on the western frontier, although, much of the legendary reputation attributed to the .45 Colt was not actually earned by that cartridge.

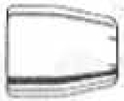
Often incorrectly referred to as the Long Colt, the .45 Colt was one of at least two .45 caliber cartridges then in use with the U.S. military. In early 1874, the U.S. Army began testing a break-top Smith & Wesson revolver, known as the S&W Model 3 Schofield First Model. The Schofield was chambered for a shorter cartridge known as the .45 S&W. Loaded with 28 grains of black powder and a 230 grain lead bullet, the .45 S&W delivered about 750 fps at the muzzle. With its longer cylinder, the Colt revolver could use the shorter S&W cartridge in exactly the same manner as a .38 Special being fired in a .357 Magnum chamber. Naturally, the Schofield revolver could not use the longer .45 Colt ammunition. Inevitably, there were instances of units armed with the Schofield revolvers being issued .45 Colt ammunition, which was unusable in their guns. To avoid such confusion, Army Ordnance began to issue the shorter cartridge to all units until the Schofield was removed from service in the mid 1880s. Because it was so widely used in military sidearms, the .45 S&W became commonly known as the .45 Colt Government cartridge. It is not surprising, that the original .45 Colt began to be referred to as the .45 "Long" Colt, in order to differentiate it from the shorter cartridge. It is interesting to note that all the early Colt and Smith & Wesson revolvers purchased by

45 Colt (Colt SAA-revolvers and replicas), continued

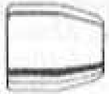
the military had their fixed sights regulated for a 50 yard "zero" with the S&W cartridge, explaining why so many old Colt SAA-revolvers don't quite shoot to point of aim with modern .45 Colt ammunition.

Reloading for the older revolvers and modern replicas calls for discretion and strict adherence to the reloading tables. Despite the fact that recently produced SAAs and replicas may indeed use better steel than the originals, the design itself is a limiting factor in what type of pressures these guns can withstand. If there is any doubt as to the strength of a particular .45 revolver, we strongly recommend that it be reloaded using these tables only.

.4515 185 gr. JHP
Cartridge OAL: 1.522"



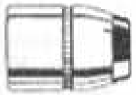
.4515 185 gr. FPJ
Cartridge OAL: 1.460"



Powder ↓ / Velocity →	850	900	950	1000	1050	1100	1150
700X	7.4	7.8	8.2	8.5	8.8	9.1	9.4
PB	8.2	8.5	8.8	9.1	9.4	9.8	10.4
Unique			9.0	9.8	10.5	11.3	12.0
SR4756				13.0	13.4	13.8	14.2
Energy/ft.lbs.	*297*	*333*	*371*	*411*	*453*	*497*	*543*

Accuracy Load: Unique/11.3 grs. ; 1100 fps/497 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: Unique/12.0 grs. ; 1150 fps/543 ft.lbs.

.4515 240 gr. JHC
Cartridge OAL: 1.600"



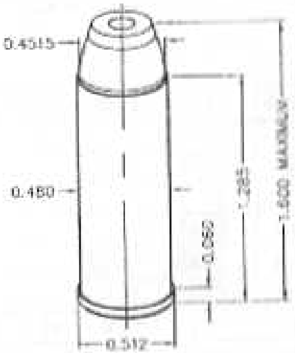
Powder ↓ / Velocity →	750	800	850	900
Bullseye	6.0	6.5	7.0	7.5
Red Dot	6.1	6.6	7.1	7.6
Green Dot	6.9	7.4	7.9	8.4
Unique	7.7	8.2	8.7	9.2
Herco		8.8	9.3	9.8
Energy/ft.lbs.	*300*	*341*	*385*	*432*

Accuracy Load: Unique/8.7 grs. ; 850 fps/385 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: Herco/9.8 grs. ; 900 fps/432 ft.lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

45 Colt

(Ruger, Colt Anaconda, Dan Wesson, and Freedom Arms revolvers)



Test Specifications

Firearm Used: Ruger Blackhawk
Bbl. Length/Twist: 7 1/2"/1x16"

Test Components

Cases: Winchester
Trim-to Length: 1.280"
Primers: CCI-300 & *CCI-350

Remarks:

Although it never really faded from the scene, the old .45 Colt has seen a revival of interest in the past few years. This has resulted in the development of several new revolvers of modern design, able to withstand much higher pressures than the old original .45 Colt revolvers. While they may look quite similar to the old SAAs and modern replicas, these new designs are able to take loads that would prove disastrous in the older guns or their present day reincarnations.

Originally designed for the Colt Single Action Army revolver, the .45 Colt case has suffered from criticism concerning its minuscule rim. Since the Colt SAA used a rod ejector, the rim served only to headspace the case, and was not needed to aid in extraction. This was a valid complaint, verified by the fact that when the military went to a double action revolver using a swing out cylinder (the Colt New Service in 1909), the rim of the case was enlarged from .508" to .536" in diameter. This was done to provide the extractor star a more positive grasp of the cartridge during ejection. This created some difficulty when the government disposed of its surplus .45 Colt ammunition in later years. Users of Colt Single Action Army revolvers found that the 1909 cartridge could only be loaded in every other chamber, as the case rims would interfere with each other when loaded in adjacent chambers! Other than the difference in rim diameter, the 1909 cartridge was identical to the original .45 Colt case.

Since most of the modern designs intended for use with this data still use a rod ejector, this is of little concern. It is something to be aware of however, in guns using a swing out cylinder such as the Colt Anaconda and Dan Wesson. The following data is intended only for use with those guns listed above, and is ***not*** to be used in Colt SAAs or modern replicas, Colt 1909 New Service, or Smith & Wesson 25-5 Revolvers.

45 Colt

By Hank Williams Jr.

The .45 Colt is one of four of the most famous American cartridges of all time (.45 Colt, .45-70, .45 ACP, .30-06), and its legendary status is well deserved.

> *It conjures up images from the Little Big Horn to the Rhine. It can be the Yukon.*

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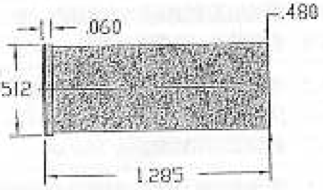
It can be wonderfully accurate. The most important thing about reloading the .45 Colt for accuracy is the dimension of your cylinder throats. They must not be over .452 for jacketed bullets. If your cylinder is oversize, send it back to the manufacturer and ask for a cylinder with .452 throats. They will be glad to help, as they are aware of this.

I know Unique is the old standard powder and it is accurate, but there are cleaner powders just as accurate.

Hank is a singer/songwriter and admirer of Colt Single Action Army revolvers.

45 Colt (SAA & Replicas)

Test Information



RIFLE:	Barrel:	Douglas
	Length:	7.25"
	Twist:	1-16"
CASE:		Winchester
PRIMER:		Rem. 2½

Comments from the lab

The .45 Colt has been around long enough (nearly 125 years) to have outlived many different firearm designs. For this reason, we list two sets of data for this cartridge.

The data listed here was developed specifically to meet the needs of the Colt Single Action Army revolver, and replicas. There is a strong propensity among reloaders to load this round beyond the strength limits of the firearm.

Do not exceed the maximum charge weights listed here unless you are shooting a Ruger, or a T/C Contender.

If you have an older firearm, or are unsure as to the condition of your firearm, we strongly recommend having it thoroughly inspected by a competent gunsmith before use.

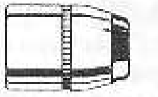
As always with a revolver cartridge, we recommend a good roll crimp to hold the bullet in place, and help achieve consistent ignition. We have had great results with the following procedure:

- Seat the bullet to where you can just see the top edge of the cannelure.
- Adjust your crimp so that the case mouth is deforming the ridges in the cannelure and biting clear to the bottom of the groove.

45 Colt, continued

(Ruger, Colt Anaconda, Dan Wesson, and Freedom Arms revolvers)

.4515 240 gr. JHC
Cartridge OAL: 1.600"

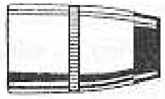


Powder ↓ / Velocity →	850	950	1000	1050	1100	1200	1250
Bullseye	7.0	8.0	8.5				
Red Dot	7.1	8.1	8.6				
Green Dot	7.9	8.9	9.4				
Unique	8.7	9.7	10.3	10.9	11.5		
Herco	9.3	10.3	10.8	11.3	11.8		
SR4756			11.1	11.7	12.3	13.5	
*Blue Dot			14.2	14.7	15.3	16.4	16.9
*2400		17.9	18.7	19.5	20.3		
*296					21.1	23.7	25.0
IMR-4227			19.7	20.9	22.1	24.3	
Energy/ft.lbs.	*385*	*481*	*533*	*587*	*645*	*767*	*833*

*Denotes CCI 350

Accuracy Load: *Blue Dot/15.3 grs. ; 1100 fps/645 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: *296/25.0 grs. ; 1250 fps/833 ft.lbs.

.4515 300 gr. JSP
Cartridge OAL: 1.650"



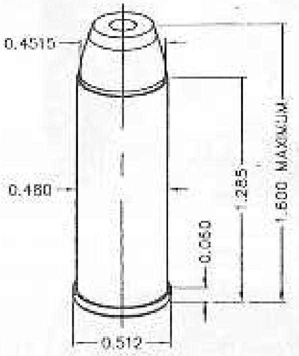
Powder ↓ / Velocity →	800	850	900	950	1000	1050	1100
Unique	8.3	8.9	9.4	10.0	10.5		
Viht 3N37	9.2	9.8	10.4	11.0	11.6	12.2	
*Blue Dot	11.5	12.1	12.7	13.3	14.0		
*AA-No.9			15.0	15.7	16.4	17.1	17.8
*2400	13.9	14.7	15.5	16.4	17.2	18.0	18.8
*Viht N110		15.6	16.1	16.6	17.2	17.7	18.2
*H110				19.3	19.7	20.1	20.5
*296					17.9	19.2	20.5
*IMR-4227		19.0	19.7	20.5	21.2		
Energy/ft.lbs.	*426*	*481*	*539*	*601*	*665*	*734*	*806*

*Denotes CCI 350

Accuracy Load: Unique/9.4 grs. ; 900 fps/539 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: *296/20.5 grs. ; 1100 fps/806 ft.lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

45 Colt



Test Specifications
Firearm Used: Winchester Model 94AE
Bbl. Length/Twist: 16"/1x38"

Test Components
Cases: Federal
Trim-to Length: 1.280"
Primers: Federal 155

The .45 Colt is one of the oldest handgun cartridges still in common use. Introduced by Colt in 1873, the .45 was designed for the classic Single Action Army, also known as the Peacemaker. Originally loaded with a stiff charge of 40 grains of black powder and a 250 or 255 grain bullet, the .45 Colt rapidly earned a reputation as a reliable fight stopper on the western frontier. Over 120 years after its introduction, the .45 Colt remains one of our most popular big bore handgun cartridges.

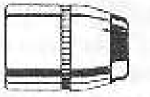
The sealed breach, strong lock up and longer barrel of the Winchester and Marlin carbines offer substantial room for improvement over the ballistic performance available in a .45 Colt handgun. Although it is often compared to the more powerful .44 Magnum, the .45 Colt cannot be pushed to the same levels. In our testing, using otherwise identical Winchester Model 94AE carbines, we were able to obtain some 200 feet per second more velocity with the .44 Magnum when like bullet weights were used. When used within its range limitations, the .45 is still a reliable performer. With solidly constructed bullets capable of giving deep penetration, the .45 Colt is capable of cleanly taking whitetail deer and black bear at short ranges. In many respects, the .45 Colt is superior to the smaller caliber high velocity cartridges used in this type of hunting. In the words of the late Elmer Keith, a large, slow moving bullet giving complete penetration "lets a lot of air in, and a lot of blood out."

The following data was worked up specifically for the Winchester or Marlin .45 Colt rifles, and should not be used in revolvers or weaker replica lever actions. In our testing, we found Accurate No.9, Hodgdon's H110 and Winchester 296 to be the best powders for high velocity loadings. Magnum primers provide the best ignition when such slow burning powders are used, generally giving the most uniform velocity and accuracy. A firm crimp is required with these powders, and we had excellent results with the Lee Factory Crimp Die. This crimp must be applied in a separate operation, but we normally recommend this over seating and crimping in the same step.

45 Colt, continued

(Ruger, Colt Anaconda, Dan Wesson, and Freedom Arms revolvers)

.4515 240 gr. JHC
Cartridge OAL: 1.600"



Powder ↓ / Velocity →	850	950	1000	1050	1100	1200	1250
Bullseye	7.0	8.0	8.5				
Red Dot	7.1	8.1	8.6				
Green Dot	7.9	8.9	9.4				
Unique	8.7	9.7	10.3	10.9	11.5		
Herco	9.3	10.3	10.8	11.3	11.8		
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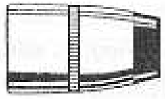
Hunting Load: *296/25.0 grs. ; 1250 fps/833 ft.lbs.

.4515 300 gr. JSP
Cartridge OAL: 1.650"



Powder ↓ / Velocity →	800	850	900	950	1000	1050	1100
Unique	8.3	8.9	9.4	10.0	10.5		
Viht 3N37	9.2	9.8	10.4	11.0	11.6	12.2	
*Blue Dot	11.5	12.1	12.7	13.3	14.0		
*AA-No.9			15.0	15.7	16.4	17.1	17.8
*2400	13.9	14.7	15.5	16.4	17.2	18.0	18.8
*Viht N110		15.6	16.1	16.6	17.2	17.7	18.2
*H110				19.3	19.7	20.1	20.5
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Hunting Load: *296/20.5 grs. ; 1100 fps/806 ft.lbs.

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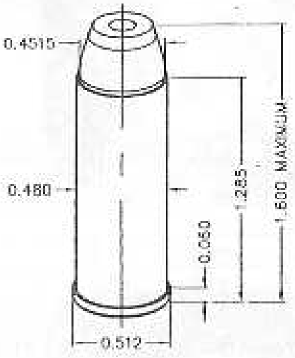
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

45 Colt



Test Specifications
Firearm Used: Winchester Model 94AE
Bbl. Length/Twist: 16"/1x38"

Test Components
Cases: Federal
Trim-to Length: 1.280"
Primers: Federal 155

The .45 Colt is one of the oldest handgun cartridges still in common use. Introduced by Colt in 1873, the .45 was designed for the classic Single Action Army, also known as the Peacemaker. Originally loaded with a stiff charge of 40 grains of black powder and a 250 or 255 grain bullet, the .45 Colt rapidly earned a reputation as a reliable fight stopper on the western frontier. Over 120 years after its introduction, the .45 Colt remains one of our most popular big bore handgun cartridges.

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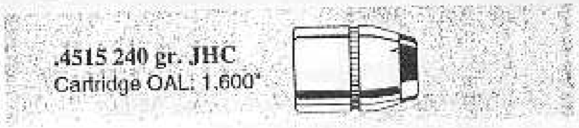
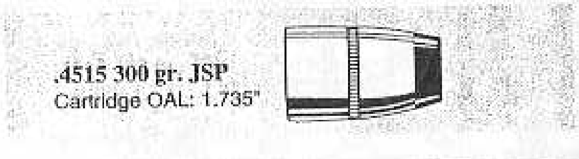
45 Colt, continued



.4515 240 gr. JHC
Cartridge OAL: 1.600"

Powder ↓ / Velocity →	1300	1350	1400	1450	1500	1550
Unique	11.1	11.6	12.1			
SR4756	11.9	12.5	13.0			
Blue Dot	14.5	15.0	15.5	16.0	16.4	
AA-No.7			16.8	17.5	18.2	
AA-No.9			19.5	20.2	20.9	21.6
Viht N110	19.0	19.4	19.8	20.3	20.7	21.2
H110			20.7	21.5	22.3	23.2
296			21.0	21.9	22.8	23.6
IMR-4227	19.4	20.5	21.6			
Energy/ft.lbs.	*900*	*971*	*1044*	*1120*	*1199*	*1280*

Accuracy Load: H110/22.3 grs.; 1500 fps/1199 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: AA-No.9/21.6 grs.; 1550 fps/1280 ft.lbs.



.4515 300 gr. JSP
Cartridge OAL: 1.735"

Powder ↓ / Velocity →	1200	1300	1400	1450	1500
Blue Dot	13.3	14.3	15.3	15.8	
AA-No. 9	16.1	17.5	18.9	19.6	
2400	17.1	18.5	19.8	20.4	
Viht N110	17.2	18.1	19.0		
H110		18.4	20.0	20.8	21.7
296		18.6	20.0	20.7	21.5
680		20.3	21.9	22.7	23.4
Energy/ft.lbs.	*959*	*1126*	*1305*	*1400*	*1499*

Accuracy Load: Viht N110/19.0 gr.; 1400 fps/1305 ft. lbs.
Hunting Load: 296/21.5 gr.; 1500 fps/1499 ft. lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

(RIFLE DATA)

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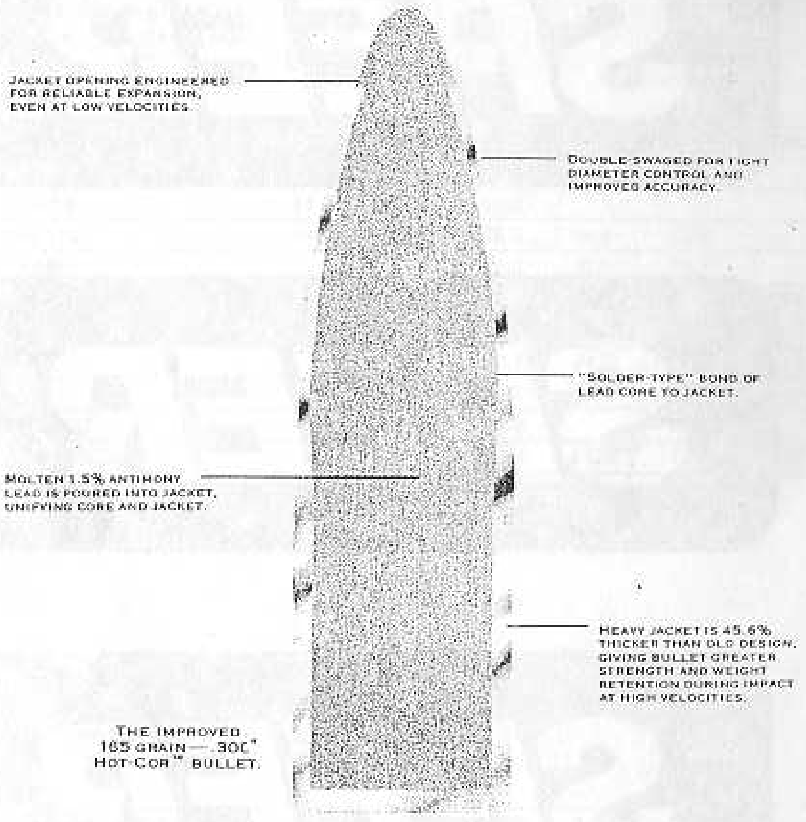
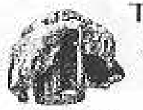
SPEER™ HAS A MORE POTENT RECIPE FOR PUNCH.


JACKET OPENING ENGINEERED FOR RELIABLE EXPANSION, EVEN AT LOW VELOCITIES.
DOUBLE-SWAGED FOR TIGHT DIAMETER CONTROL AND IMPROVED ACCURACY.
"SOLDER-TYPE" BOND OF LEAD CORE TO JACKET.
MOLTEN 1.5% ANTIMONY LEAD IS POURED INTO JACKET, UNIFYING CORE AND JACKET.
HEAVY JACKET IS 45.6% THICKER THAN OLD DESIGN, GIVING BULLET GREATER STRENGTH AND WEIGHT RETENTION DURING IMPACT AT HIGH VELOCITIES.
THE IMPROVED 165 GRAIN—.308" HOT-COR™ BULLET.


.308, 165 GR. 72% RETAINED WEIGHT. SHOT INTO BALLISTIC TEST MEDIA.

The secret of its success—Hot-Cor.™ Our own special process that injects molten lead into the jacket, rather than forcing in a cold lead slug. The result: greater expansion and weight retention than conventional "cold core" bullets. With deadly accuracy and consistency. Shot after shot after shot.

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.45 COLT - SPEER BULLETS

In 1873, the U.S. Army adopted the famous Colt Single Action Army revolver as its service sidearm. It was chambered for the new 45 Colt cartridge that held an impressive quantity of black powder under a 255 grain lead bullet. The new combination proved both powerful and accurate, serving for 17 years before being replaced by a 38 caliber revolver. Like other service cartridges, the 45 Colt became popular with civilians. It is the oldest centerfire handgun cartridge still in regular use today.

Today the 45 Colt is gaining new attention among sport shooters. Cowboy Action Shooting competition calls for single action firearms and the 45 Colt is certainly the most nostalgic. Colt single action revolvers are still available along with several well-made imported copies. Ruger has sold thousands of their modern Blackhawk and Vaquero revolvers chambered for 45 Colt. In the 1970's, Smith & Wesson introduced the double-action Model 25-5 in the large "N-frame" series that stayed in the line until 1991.

Factory ammunition was limited to a 250 or 255 grain lead bullet for many years. Velocities run around 800 to 850 feet/sec in a six-inch barrel. Increased interest in the cartridge convinced ammo makers to design newer bullet styles including hollow points starting in the 1970's.

Prior to World War II, most Colt revolvers had a bore diameter of .454". Postwar guns measure .451" to .452"—the same as the 45 Auto. Many older loading dies are designed for use with the larger bullets and may not size and/or expand the case to grip the smaller bullets properly. Your expander ball should be no larger than .450" diameter to properly load .451" bullets. We found that new cases will not properly grip a jacketed bullet unless partially sized. Sizing the first half-inch of the case in a carbide die easily remedies this.

Speer's most popular jacketed bullets for standard pressure loads in the 45 Colt are the 200 and 225 grain jacketed hollow points. Both bullets can be loaded to sufficient velocities at normal pressures to give good performance.

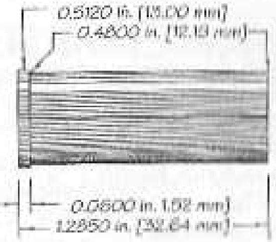
Speer's 200 and 250 grain lead semi-wadcutters make nice practice and target loads. The 200 grain bullet should be should be firmly roll-crimped over the shoulder. The 250 grain bullet will shoot very close to point-of-aim in fixed-sighted revolvers; however, the 200 grain bullet may shoot somewhat low.

Bullets designed for the 45 Auto usually lack a crimping groove; thus, they are more difficult to load in a revolver cartridge. When crimping the 230 grain Gold Dot bullet, use a 45 Auto taper crimp die to adequately grip the bullet without deforming the jacket.

We show CAS loads for bullets from two RCBS moulds. We also tested the excellent 45-255-SWC Keith design bullet. This is probably the best general-purpose lead bullet in the 45 Colt. We sized to .454" to create a good fit in the chamber throat. Our start loads produce at least 11,000 psi and we emphatically recommend that you not load these bullets lighter.

Although within industry pressure limits, these loads must be used only in revolvers originally made for smokeless propellant. If in doubt, check with the firearm manufacturer or a qualified gunsmith before firing the revolver with ANY modern ammo.

The industry maximum average pressure for the 45 Colt is 14,000 psi.



Max. Case Length: 1.285"
Trim-to Length: 1.275"
Max. Cart. Length: 1.600"
RCBS Shellholder: #20
Barrel Length: 6"
Twist: 1-15"

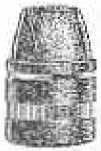
Test Firearm: Smith & Wesson Model 25-5
Case: W-W
Primers: CCI 300, 350

NOTE: For reliable performance with this bullet, the case must be firmly roll-crimped over the bullet shoulder.

.452" Dia. 200 Grain Sect. Density .139	45 L-SWC				
Ballistic Coefficient	0.078				
C.O.L. Tested At	1.515"				
Speer Part No.	4677				

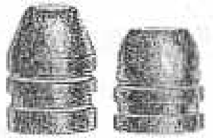
Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Unique	**9.5**	**1061**	Red Dot	**7.3**	**1001**	Green Dot	**8.3**	**980**
	8.0	896		6.3	859		7.3	834
HS-6	**12.2**	**1036**	231	**8.3**	**998**	SR 7625	**8.1**	**959**
	10.7	898		7.3	854		7.1	860
Herco	**9.5**	**1021**	Bullseye	**7.5**	**988**	700-X	**6.9**	**959**
	8.0	855		6.5	835		5.9	795

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.



.452" Dia. 250 Grain Sect. Density .176	45 L-SWC				
Ballistic Coefficient	0.117				
C.O.L. Tested At	1.600"				
Speer Part No.	4683				

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Blue Dot	**12.9**	**1028**	H. Universal	**9.2**	**942**	HS-7*	**12.2**	**906**
	11.9	912		8.3	826		11.2	812
Viht. 3N37	**11.5**	**1012**	Unique	**9.5**	**941**	IMR 4227	**19.0**	**904**
	10.5	889		8.6	891		17.0	775
2400	**15.4**	**972**	WAP	**10.4**	**937**	Bullseye	**7.0**	**879**
	13.4	838		9.4	832		6.3	810
HS-6*	**12.0**	**945**	AA #5	**11.6**	**927**	231	**8.0**	**852**
	11.0	917		10.6	840		7.2	780



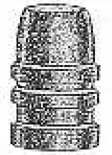
Cowboy ACTION SHOOTING DATA

45 Caliber Cast Bullets 225-230 Grain Sect. Dens. (225) .156 Sect. Dens. (230) .159	45-225 CAV	45-230 CAS			
Lead Alloy	hard	hard			
Diameter Sized	0.454"	0.454"			
Ballistic Coef.	0.128	0.126			
C. O. L. Tested At	1.600"	1.585"			
RCBS Mould No.	82081	82308			

NOTE: Velocities for these loads fired from Colt SAA with 5.5 inch barrel.

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
SR 4756	**10.3**	**917**	Unique	**8.5**	**850**	Bullseye	**6.0**	**815**
	9.5	793		7.8	804		5.0	709
H. Universal	**8.5**	**887**	Tite-Group	**6.2**	**832**	AA #2 Impr.	**6.8**	**799**
	7.8	813		5.6	775		6.4	735
Viht. N350	**9.7**	**857**	AA Nitro 100	**5.9**	**831**	American Select	**6.0**	**782**
	8.8	783		5.1	782		5.5	724
231	**7.2**	**852**	700-X	**6.0**	**816**			
	6.5	788		5.2	787			

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.



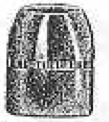
We sell bullet moulds, not cast bullets. These bullets were cast in RCBS moulds. Contact your dealer for more information on the RCBS line of premium moulds.

45 Caliber Cast Bullets 255 Grain
Sect. Density .177

	45-255 SWC					
Lead Alloy	hard					
Diameter Sized	0.454"					
Ballistic Coef.	0.165					
C. O. L. Tested At	1.665" †					
RCBS Mould No.	82050					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Viht. N110	**16.8**	**914**	Viht. N350	**9.5**	**847**	231	**7.0**	**784**
	15.8	809		8.6	717		6.1	700
H. Universal	**8.0**	**883**	Unique	**8.5**	**846**	AA Nitro 100	**5.5**	**752**
	7.2	815		7.7	789		5.0	675
SR 4756	**10.0**	**865**	Power Pistol	**8.3**	**810**			
	9.0	808		7.3	763			

† NOTE: Exceeds industry maximum cartridge length. Not for use in repeating rifles. Most 45 Colt revolvers will accept cartridges of this length.

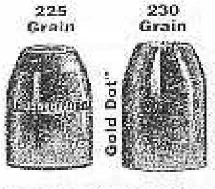


.451" Dia. 200 Grain
Sect. Density .140

	45 JHP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.138					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.555"					
Spear Part No.	4477					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
HS-6*	**12.5**	**1081**	Bullseye	**7.9**	**994**	700-X	**7.1**	**921**
	11.0	945		7.4	920		6.1	852
Unique	**9.8**	**1048**	Green Dot	**8.8**	**991**	Power Pistol	**9.2**	**885**
	8.8	940		7.8	868		8.6	829
Herco	**10.0**	**1032**	H. Universal	**9.2**	**985**	Tite-Group	**6.8**	**865**
	9.0	928		8.4	892		6.2	788
SR 7625	**8.7**	**1002**	Red Dot	**7.6**	**981**			
	7.7	880		7.1	911			

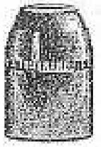
Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.
* CCI Magnum Primer used with this powder.



.451" Dia. 225 Grain 230 Grain

	45 Mag-JHP	45 GD-HP				
Sectional Density	0.158	0.162				
Ballistic Coefficient	0.169	0.143				
C.O.L. Tested At	1.590"	1.600"				
Spear Part No.	4479	4483				

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Blue Dot	**13.0**	**1036**	Unique	**9.0**	**932**	Power Pistol	**9.5**	**878**
	12.0	967		8.1	827		8.5	823
SR 4756	**11.0**	**982**	Herco	**9.4**	**918**	H. Universal	**9.0**	**873**
	10.3	836		8.4	839		8.2	819
Viht. N110	**18.0**	**946**	AA #5	**11.8**	**912**	231	**8.3**	**870**
	16.0	778		10.8	840		7.5	804
HS-6*	**11.8**	**936**	Bullseye	**7.1**	**890**			
	10.8	876		6.4	825			



.451" Dia. 260 Grain
Sect. Density .183

	45 Mag-JHP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.183					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.590"					
Speer Part No.	4481					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Blue Dot	**13.0**	**941**	H. Universal	**8.9**	**897**	Power Pistol	**8.4**	**852**
	12.0	820		8.0	753		7.8	749
HS-6*	**11.5**	**925**	Unique	**8.7**	**890**	231	**8.0**	**843**
	10.5	810		7.9	799		7.2	725
AA #5	**11.4**	**898**	3N37	**10.4**	**875**	Bullseye	**7.1**	**841**
	10.4	797		9.4	739		6.4	785

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.
* CCI Magnum Primer used with this powder.

With the introduction of stronger revolvers and pistols chambered for the 45 Colt cartridge, handloaders felt that the performance of the cartridge could be enhanced by loading to higher pressure levels. The Ruger Blackhawk and the Thompson/Center Contender can both handle somewhat higher pressures than traditional 45 Colt revolvers. The resulting increase in velocity makes the 45 Colt a potent hunting handgun.

However, there are limitations. Some handloaders have assembled 45 Colt loads that exceed the pressures of the 44 Magnum! The 45 Colt case is not as strong as the 44 Magnum case and you must not attempt to load it as high, regardless of the gun model. The loads Speer developed are roughly halfway between standard 45 Colt and 44 Magnum pressures. This results in a significant increase in energy, yet the loads were safe in Speer's test firearms. If you need more power than this, buy a 44 Magnum or a 454 Casull!

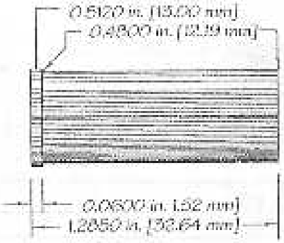
The bullets we selected for these loads are designed for high-velocity use. The 185 and 230 grain Gold Dot bullets are intended for the 45 Auto and standard pressure 45 Colt loads. Penetration with either bullet is limited at high velocities and it is difficult to adequately crimp them to prevent their moving in the case under heavy recoil.

All bullets shown should be heavily roll-crimped. We crimped the 300 grain UNI-COR soft point to the REAR cannelure for a cartridge length of 1.640". Do not seat them to the front cannelure with these loads as excessive pressure will result. Loads for the 300 grain bullet were developed in a copper crusher test barrel; they operate at higher pressure than those for lighter bullets, up to 25,000 cup. Even so, they showed no pressure signs in our test revolver.

When expanding case necks, make sure that your expander plug is no larger than .450" to insure a firm grip on the bullet. We recommend that these loads be used in new or once-fired cases known to be of recent manufacture. Older cases of the "balloon head" style aren't strong enough to hold modern pressures.

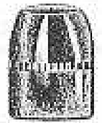
Important Safety Notice

These loads are intended for use only in Ruger Blackhawk and Vaquero revolvers, and the Thompson/Center Contender. They are not to be used in any other make or model of firearm! Do not substitute components, or try to load higher than the data presented.



Max. Case Length: 1.285"
Trim-to Length: 1.275"
Max. Cart. Length: 1.600"
RCBS Shellholder: #20
Barrel Length: 7.50"
Twist: 1-16"

Test Firearm: Ruger Blackhawk
Case: W-W
Primers: CCI 300, 350



.451" Dia. **200 Grain** Sect. Density .140	45 JHP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.136					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.555"					
Speer Part No.	4477					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
SR 4759	25.5C	1333	Unique	11.8	1301	Herco	12.2	1245
	23.5	1224		11.3	1259		11.7	1199
HS-6*	14.6	1313	2400	20.3	1287	231	10.5	1238
	13.6	1220		18.3	1162		10.0	1198

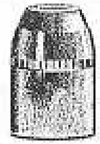
(RUGER & T/C CONTENDER ONLY)

.45 COLT - SPEER BULLETS

.451" Dia. 225 Grain Sect. Density .169	45 Mag-JHP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.169					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.590"					
Speer Part No.	4479					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Blue Dot	**16.0**	**1343**	Bullseye	10.5	1229	Unique	**11.5**	**1191**
	14.0	1216		9.5	1165		10.5	1107
Viht. N110	23.0C	1339	HS-6*	**14.0**	**1198**	AA #5	**13.5**	**1157**
	21.0	1209		13.0	1146		12.5	1085
2400	**19.0**	**1259**	SR 4759	23.5C	**1198**	231	10.5	1127
	17.0	1156		21.5	1094		9.5	1011

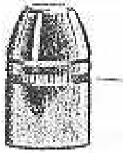
Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution. C = Compressed Load
* CCI Magnum Primer used with this powder.



.451" Dia. 260 Grain Sect. Density .183	45 Mag-JHP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.183					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.590"					
Speer Part No.	4481					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
296*	**20.5**	**1183**	WAP	**12.5**	**1133**	Unique	**10.5**	**1079**
	19.0	1096		11.5	1045		9.5	987
2400	**18.0**	**1180**	HS-7*	**14.7**	**1123**	231	**10.2**	**1067**
	16.0	1045		13.7	1021		9.2	987
H110*	**20.0**	**1151**	Herco	**11.0**	**1082**	Bullseye	**9.4**	**1064**
	18.5	1042		10.0	996		8.5	1005

(RUGER & T/C CONTENDER ONLY)



NOTE: Seat bullet to rear cannelure. These loads were developed using copper crusher equipment to a pressure of 25,000 CUP.

.451" Dia. 300 Grain Sect. Density .211	45 UCSP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.199					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.640"					
Speer Part No.	4485					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
296*	**23.0**	**1193**	2400	**17.5**	**1048**	H4227	**20.5**	**985**
	20.7	1084		15.8	938		18.5	901
H110*	**23.5**	**1156**	AA #9	**15.5**	**1041**	Unique	**10.5**	**952**
	21.1	974		15.0	959		9.5	880
HS-7*	**15.5**	**1057**	SR 4759	**22.5**	**1029**			
	14.0	975		20.3	825			

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.
* CCI Magnum Primer used with this powder.

SHOOTER'S LOG

45 COLT (RIFLE)

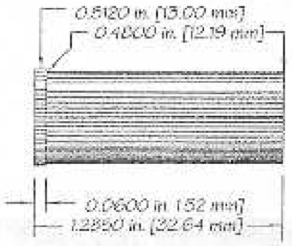
Lead Bullet Loads for Cowboy Action Shooting

Although most widely known as a handgun cartridge, the 45 Colt is seeing increased use in rifles and carbines for Cowboy Action Shooting (CAS). The loads here are intended expressly for this sport. They use bullets from the RCBS 45-225 CAV mould or the 45-230 CAS mould. Both bullets are profiled to work well in both rifles and handguns, and have proved quite accurate in both.

A CAS cartridge must provide reliable feeding in lever-action rifles. A significant factor in obtaining reliability is paying attention to loaded cartridge lengths. When using the CAV bullet, best results are obtained by trimming all cases to 1.275 inch. If seated in cases that are at the top of the length spec, this bullet may be slightly over the 1.600 inch maximum cartridge length for this cartridge; this could causing feeding problems in some rifles. Trimming cases to uniform length should give reliable feeding with the bullet firmly crimped in the groove provided. The newer 230 grain CAS bullet does not require any special attention. It should produce a cartridge of proper length in most cases.

DO NOT LOAD LIGHTER CHARGES THAN THE LISTED STARTING LOADS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE. Doing so can cause unacceptably high shot-to-shot variations in velocity and pressure, and increases the risk of a bullet lodging in the bore. Starting loads were carefully chosen to keep the minimum pressures above 12,000 psi, an important factor when loading rather small volumes of smokeless powder in this large case. We also used a substantial roll crimp to increase bullet pull and to prevent bullets from telescoping into the cases in a tubular magazine.

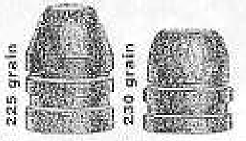
Maximum loads listed here do not exceed the industry limit of 14,000 psi. For additional information on this cartridge, see the Handgun Section.



Max. Case Length: 1.285"
Trim-to Length: 1.275"
Max. Cart. Length: 1.600"
RCBS Shellholder: #20
Barrel Length: 16"
Twist: 1-38"

Test Firearm: Winchester Model 94 "Trapper"
Case: W-W
Primers: CCI 300

45 Caliber Cast Bullets 225-230 Grain



Cowboy ACTION SHOOTING DATA

Sect. Dens. .158/.162	45-225 CAV	45-230 CAS				
Lead Alloy	hard	hard				
Diameter Sized	0.454"	0.454"				
Ballistic Coef.	0.128	0.126				
C. O. L. Tested At	1.600"	1.590"				
RCBS Mould No.	82081	82309				

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
H. Universal	**8.5**	**1086**	231	**7.2**	**1029**	AA Nitro 100	**5.9**	**983**
	7.8	991		6.5	942		5.1	876
SR 4756	**10.3**	**1071**	Tite-Group	**6.2**	**1013**	AA #2 Impr.	**6.8**	**978**
	9.5	1019		5.6	954		6.4	914
Viht. N350	**9.7**	**1059**	700-X	**6.0**	**1004**	American Select	**6.0**	**936**
	8.8	962		5.2	913		5.5	882
Unique	**8.5**	**1043**	Bullseye	**6.0**	**990**			
	7.8	974		5.0	873			

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.

**We sell bullet moulds, not cast bullets.
These bullets were cast in RCBS moulds.
Contact your dealer for more information
on the RCBS line of premium moulds.**

45 Colt

by Hank Williams Jr.

The .45 Colt is one of four of the most famous American cartridges of all time (.45 Colt, .45-70, .45 ACP, .30-06), and its legendary status is well deserved.

> *It conjures up images from the Little Big Horn to the Rhine. It can be the Yukon.*

Loaded to roar like a lion with the old original L/O grain black-powder, (or purr like a kitten with a powder such as W 231), it is the father of the .454 Casull.

It can be wonderfully accurate. The most important thing about reloading the .45 Colt for accuracy is the dimension of your cylinder throats. They must not be over .452 for jacketed bullets. If your cylinder is oversize, send it back to the manufacturer and ask for a cylinder with .452 throats. They will be glad to help, as they are aware of this.

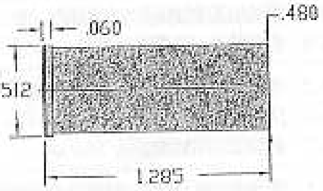
I know Unique is the old standard powder and it is accurate, but there are cleaner powders just as accurate.

Hank Williams Jr.

Hank is a singer/songwriter and admirer of Colt Single Action Army revolvers.

45 Colt (SAA & Replicas)

Test Information



RIFLE:	Barrel:	Douglas
	Length:	7.25"
	Twist:	1-16"
CASE:		Winchester
PRIMER:		Rem. 2½

Comments from the lab

The .45 Colt has been around long enough (nearly 125 years) to have outlived many different firearm designs. For this reason, we list two sets of data for this cartridge.

The data listed here was developed specifically to meet the needs of the Colt Single Action Army revolver, and replicas. There is a strong propensity among reloaders to load this round beyond the strength limits of the firearm.

Do not exceed the maximum charge weights listed here unless you are shooting a Ruger, or a T/C Contender.

If you have an older firearm, or are unsure as to the condition of your firearm, we strongly recommend having it thoroughly inspected by a competent gunsmith before use.

As always with a revolver cartridge, we recommend a good roll crimp to hold the bullet in place, and help achieve consistent ignition. We have had great results with the following procedure:

- Seat the bullet to where you can just see the top edge of the cannelure.
- Adjust your crimp so that the case mouth is deforming the ridges in the cannelure and biting clear to the bottom of the groove.

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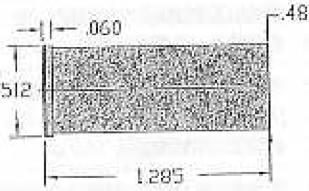
45 Colt (SAA & Replicas)

Test Information



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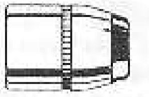
45 Colt, continued

(Ruger, Colt Anaconda, Dan Wesson, and Freedom Arms revolvers)

.4515 240 gr. JHC
Cartridge OAL: 1.600"

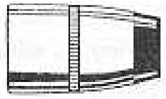


Powder ↓ / Velocity →	850	950	1000	1050	1100	1200	1250
Bullseye	7.0	8.0	8.5				
Red Dot	7.1	8.1	8.6				
Green Dot	7.9	8.9	9.4				
Unique	8.7	9.7	10.3	10.9	11.5		
Herco	9.3	10.3	10.8	11.3	11.8		
SR4756			11.1	11.7	12.3	13.5	
*Blue Dot			14.2	14.7	15.3	16.4	16.9
*2400		17.9	18.7	19.5	20.3		
*296					21.1	23.7	25.0
IMR-4227			19.7	20.9	22.1	24.3	
Energy/ft.lbs.	*385*	*481*	*533*	*587*	*645*	*767*	*833*

*Denotes CCI 350

Accuracy Load: *Blue Dot/15.3 grs. ; 1100 fps/645 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: *296/25.0 grs. ; 1250 fps/833 ft.lbs.

.4515 300 gr. JSP
Cartridge OAL: 1.650"



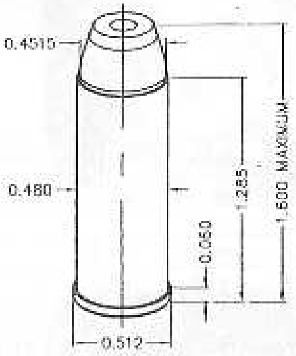
Powder ↓ / Velocity →	800	850	900	950	1000	1050	1100
Unique	8.3	8.9	9.4	10.0	10.5		
Viht 3N37	9.2	9.8	10.4	11.0	11.6	12.2	
*Blue Dot	11.5	12.1	12.7	13.3	14.0		
*AA-No.9			15.0	15.7	16.4	17.1	17.8
*2400	13.9	14.7	15.5	16.4	17.2	18.0	18.8
*Viht N110		15.6	16.1	16.6	17.2	17.7	18.2
*H110				19.3	19.7	20.1	20.5
*296					17.9	19.2	20.5
*IMR-4227		19.0	19.7	20.5	21.2		
Energy/ft.lbs.	*426*	*481*	*539*	*601*	*665*	*734*	*806*

*Denotes CCI 350

Accuracy Load: Unique/9.4 grs. ; 900 fps/539 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: *296/20.5 grs. ; 1100 fps/806 ft.lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

45 Colt



Test Specifications

Firearm Used: Winchester Model 94AE
Bbl. Length/Twist: 16"/1x38"

Test Components

Cases: Federal
Trim-to Length: 1.280"
Primers: Federal 155

The .45 Colt is one of the oldest handgun cartridges still in common use. Introduced by Colt in 1873, the .45 was designed for the classic Single Action Army, also known as the Peacemaker. Originally loaded with a stiff charge of 40 grains of black powder and a 250 or 255 grain bullet, the .45 Colt rapidly earned a reputation as a reliable fight stopper on the western frontier. Over 120 years after its introduction, the .45 Colt remains one of our most popular big bore handgun cartridges.

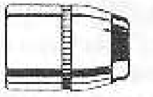
The sealed breach, strong lock up and longer barrel of the Winchester and Marlin carbines offer substantial room for improvement over the ballistic performance available in a .45 Colt handgun. Although it is often compared to the more powerful .44 Magnum, the .45 Colt cannot be pushed to the same levels. In our testing, using otherwise identical Winchester Model 94AE carbines, we were able to obtain some 200 feet per second more velocity with the .44 Magnum when like bullet weights were used. When used within its range limitations, the .45 is still a reliable performer. With solidly constructed bullets capable of giving deep penetration, the .45 Colt is capable of cleanly taking whitetail deer and black bear at short ranges. In many respects, the .45 Colt is superior to the smaller caliber high velocity cartridges used in this type of hunting. In the words of the late Elmer Keith, a large, slow moving bullet giving complete penetration "lets a lot of air in, and a lot of blood out."

The following data was worked up specifically for the Winchester or Marlin .45 Colt rifles, and should not be used in revolvers or weaker replica lever actions. In our testing, we found Accurate No.9, Hodgdon's H110 and Winchester 296 to be the best powders for high velocity loadings. Magnum primers provide the best ignition when such slow burning powders are used, generally giving the most uniform velocity and accuracy. A firm crimp is required with these powders, and we had excellent results with the Lee Factory Crimp Die. This crimp must be applied in a separate operation, but we normally recommend this over seating and crimping in the same step.

45 Colt, continued

(Ruger, Colt Anaconda, Dan Wesson, and Freedom Arms revolvers)

.4515 240 gr. JHC
Cartridge OAL: 1.600"

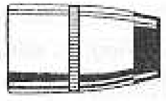


Powder ↓ / Velocity →	850	950	1000	1050	1100	1200	1250
Bullseye	7.0	8.0	8.5				
Red Dot	7.1	8.1	8.6				
Green Dot	7.9	8.9	9.4				
Unique	8.7	9.7	10.3	10.9	11.5		
Herco	9.3	10.3	10.8	11.3	11.8		
SR4756			11.1	11.7	12.3	13.5	
*Blue Dot			14.2	14.7	15.3	16.4	16.9
*2400		17.9	18.7	19.5	20.3		
*296					21.1	23.7	25.0
IMR-4227			19.7	20.9	22.1	24.3	
Energy/ft.lbs.	*385*	*481*	*533*	*587*	*645*	*767*	*833*

*Denotes CCI 350

Accuracy Load: *Blue Dot/15.3 grs. ; 1100 fps/645 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: *296/25.0 grs. ; 1250 fps/833 ft.lbs.

.4515 300 gr. JSP
Cartridge OAL: 1.650"



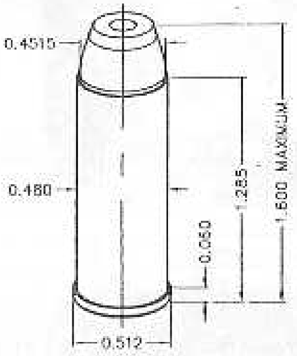
Powder ↓ / Velocity →	800	850	900	950	1000	1050	1100
Unique	8.3	8.9	9.4	10.0	10.5		
Viht 3N37	9.2	9.8	10.4	11.0	11.6	12.2	
*Blue Dot	11.5	12.1	12.7	13.3	14.0		
*AA-No.9			15.0	15.7	16.4	17.1	17.8
*2400	13.9	14.7	15.5	16.4	17.2	18.0	18.8
*Viht N110		15.6	16.1	16.6	17.2	17.7	18.2
*H110				19.3	19.7	20.1	20.5
*296					17.9	19.2	20.5
*IMR-4227		19.0	19.7	20.5	21.2		
Energy/ft.lbs.	*426*	*481*	*539*	*601*	*665*	*734*	*806*

*Denotes CCI 350

Accuracy Load: Unique/9.4 grs. ; 900 fps/539 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: *296/20.5 grs. ; 1100 fps/806 ft.lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

45 Colt



Test Specifications
Firearm Used: Winchester Model 94AE
Bbl. Length/Twist: 16"/1x38"

Test Components
Cases: Federal
Trim-to Length: 1.280"
Primers: Federal 155

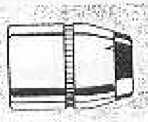
The .45 Colt is one of the oldest handgun cartridges still in common use. Introduced by Colt in 1873, the .45 was designed for the classic Single Action Army, also known as the Peacemaker. Originally loaded with a stiff charge of 40 grains of black powder and a 250 or 255 grain bullet, the .45 Colt rapidly earned a reputation as a reliable fight stopper on the western frontier. Over 120 years after its introduction, the .45 Colt remains one of our most popular big bore handgun cartridges.

The sealed breach, strong lock up and longer barrel of the Winchester and Marlin carbines offer substantial room for improvement over the ballistic performance available in a .45 Colt handgun. Although it is often compared to the more powerful .44 Magnum, the .45 Colt cannot be pushed to the same levels. In our testing, using otherwise identical Winchester Model 94AE carbines, we were able to obtain some 200 feet per second more velocity with the .44 Magnum when like bullet weights were used. When used within its range limitations, the .45 is still a reliable performer. With solidly constructed bullets capable of giving deep penetration, the .45 Colt is capable of cleanly taking whitetail deer and black bear at short ranges. In many respects, the .45 Colt is superior to the smaller caliber high velocity cartridges used in this type of hunting. In the words of the late Elmer Keith, a large, slow moving bullet giving complete penetration "lets a lot of air in, and a lot of blood out."

The following data was worked up specifically for the Winchester or Marlin .45 Colt rifles, and should not be used in revolvers or weaker replica lever actions. In our testing, we found Accurate No.9, Hodgdon's H110 and Winchester 296 to be the best powders for high velocity loadings. Magnum primers provide the best ignition when such slow burning powders are used, generally giving the most uniform velocity and accuracy. A firm crimp is required with these powders, and we had excellent results with the Lee Factory Crimp Die. This crimp must be applied in a separate operation, but we normally recommend this over seating and crimping in the same step.

45 Colt, continued

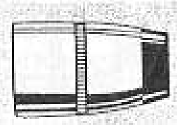
.4515 240 gr. JHC
Cartridge OAL: 1.600"



Powder ↓ / Velocity →	1300	1350	1400	1450	1500	1550
Unique	11.1	11.6	12.1			
SR4756	11.9	12.5	13.0			
Blue Dot	14.5	15.0	15.5	16.0	16.4	
AA-No.7			16.8	17.5	18.2	
AA-No.9			19.5	20.2	20.9	21.6
Viht N110	19.0	19.4	19.8	20.3	20.7	21.2
H110			20.7	21.5	22.3	23.2
296			21.0	21.9	22.8	23.6
IMR-4227	19.4	20.5	21.6			
Energy/ft.lbs.	*900*	*971*	*1044*	*1120*	*1199*	*1280*

Accuracy Load: H110/22.3 grs.; 1500 fps/1199 ft.lbs.
Hunting Load: AA-No.9/21.6 grs.; 1550 fps/1280 ft.lbs.

.4515 300 gr. JSP
Cartridge OAL: 1.735"



Powder ↓ / Velocity →	1200	1300	1400	1450	1500
Blue Dot	13.3	14.3	15.3	15.8	
AA-No. 9	16.1	17.5	18.9	19.6	
2400	17.1	18.5	19.8	20.4	
Viht N110	17.2	18.1	19.0		
H110		18.4	20.0	20.8	21.7
296		18.6	20.0	20.7	21.5
680		20.3	21.9	22.7	23.4
Energy/ft.lbs.	*959*	*1126*	*1305*	*1400*	*1499*

Accuracy Load: Viht N110/19.0 gr.; 1400 fps/1305 ft. lbs.
Hunting Load: 296/21.5 gr.; 1500 fps/1499 ft. lbs.

INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE CAUTION
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED.

(RIFLE DATA)

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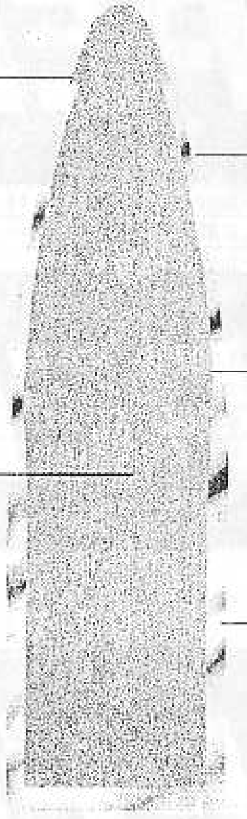
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"SOLDER-TYPE" BOND OF LEAD CORE TO JACKET.
MOLTEN 1.5% ANTIMONY LEAD IS POURED INTO JACKET, UNIFYING CORE AND JACKET.
HEAVY JACKET IS 45.6% THICKER THAN OLD DESIGN, GIVING BULLET GREATER STRENGTH AND WEIGHT RETENTION DURING IMPACT AT HIGH VELOCITIES.
THE IMPROVED 165 GRAIN—.300" HOT-COR™ BULLET.

.308, 165 GR. 72% RETAINED WEIGHT. SHOT INTO BALLISTIC TEST MEDIA.

The secret of its success—Hot-Cor.™ Our own special process that injects molten lead into the jacket, rather than forcing in a cold lead slug. The result: greater expansion and weight retention than conventional "cold core" bullets. With deadly accuracy and consistency. Shot after shot after shot.

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.45 COLT - SPEER BULLETS

In 1873, the U.S. Army adopted the famous Colt Single Action Army revolver as its service sidearm. It was chambered for the new 45 Colt cartridge that held an impressive quantity of black powder under a 255 grain lead bullet. The new combination proved both powerful and accurate, serving for 17 years before being replaced by a 38 caliber revolver. Like other service cartridges, the 45 Colt became popular with civilians. It is the oldest centerfire handgun cartridge still in regular use today.

Today the 45 Colt is gaining new attention among sport shooters. Cowboy Action Shooting competition calls for single action firearms and the 45 Colt is certainly the most nostalgic. Colt single action revolvers are still available along with several well-made imported copies. Ruger has sold thousands of their modern Blackhawk and Vaquero revolvers chambered for 45 Colt. In the 1970's, Smith & Wesson introduced the double-action Model 25-5 in the large "N-frame" series that stayed in the line until 1991.

Factory ammunition was limited to a 250 or 255 grain lead bullet for many years. Velocities run around 800 to 850 feet/sec in a six-inch barrel. Increased interest in the cartridge convinced ammo makers to design newer bullet styles including hollow points starting in the 1970's.

Prior to World War II, most Colt revolvers had a bore diameter of .454". Postwar guns measure .451" to .452"—the same as the 45 Auto. Many older loading dies are designed for use with the larger bullets and may not size and/or expand the case to grip the smaller bullets properly. Your expander ball should be no larger than .450" diameter to properly load .451" bullets. We found that new cases will not properly grip a jacketed bullet unless partially sized. Sizing the first half-inch of the case in a carbide die easily remedies this.

Speer's most popular jacketed bullets for standard pressure loads in the 45 Colt are the 200 and 225 grain jacketed hollow points. Both bullets can be loaded to sufficient velocities at normal pressures to give good performance.

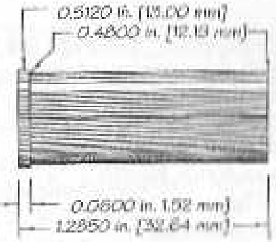
Speer's 200 and 250 grain lead semi-wadcutters make nice practice and target loads. The 200 grain bullet should be should be firmly roll-crimped over the shoulder. The 250 grain bullet will shoot very close to point-of-aim in fixed-sighted revolvers; however, the 200 grain bullet may shoot somewhat low.

Bullets designed for the 45 Auto usually lack a crimping groove; thus, they are more difficult to load in a revolver cartridge. When crimping the 230 grain Gold Dot bullet, use a 45 Auto taper crimp die to adequately grip the bullet without deforming the jacket.

We show CAS loads for bullets from two RCBS moulds. We also tested the excellent 45-255-SWC Keith design bullet. This is probably the best general-purpose lead bullet in the 45 Colt. We sized to .454" to create a good fit in the chamber throat. Our start loads produce at least 11,000 psi and we emphatically recommend that you not load these bullets lighter.

Although within industry pressure limits, these loads must be used only in revolvers originally made for smokeless propellant. If in doubt, check with the firearm manufacturer or a qualified gunsmith before firing the revolver with ANY modern ammo.

The industry maximum average pressure for the 45 Colt is 14,000 psi.



Max. Case Length: 1.285"
Trim-to Length: 1.275"
Max. Cart. Length: 1.600"
RCBS Shellholder: #20
Barrel Length: 6"
Twist: 1-15"

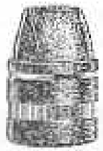
Test Firearm: Smith & Wesson Model 25-5
Case: W-W
Primers: CCI 300, 350

NOTE: For reliable performance with this bullet, the case must be firmly roll-crimped over the bullet shoulder.

.452" Dia. **200 Grain** Sect. Density .139	45 L-SWC				
Ballistic Coefficient	0.078				
C.O.L. Tested At	1.515"				
Speer Part No.	4577				

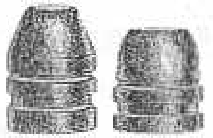
Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Unique	**9.5**	**1061**	Red Dot	**7.3**	**1001**	Green Dot	**8.3**	**980**
	8.0	896		6.3	859		7.3	834
HS-6	**12.2**	**1036**	231	**8.3**	**998**	SR 7625	**8.1**	**959**
	10.7	898		7.3	854		7.1	860
Herco	**9.5**	**1021**	Bullseye	**7.5**	**988**	700-X	**6.9**	**959**
	8.0	855		6.5	835		5.9	795

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.



.452" Dia. **250 Grain** Sect. Density .175	45 L-SWC				
Ballistic Coefficient	0.117				
C.O.L. Tested At	1.600"				
Speer Part No.	4683				

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Blue Dot	**12.9**	**1028**	H. Universal	**9.2**	**942**	HS-7*	**12.2**	**906**
	11.9	912		8.3	826		11.2	812
Viht. 3N37	**11.5**	**1012**	Unique	**9.5**	**941**	IMR 4227	**19.0**	**904**
	10.5	889		8.6	891		17.0	775
2400	**15.4**	**972**	WAP	**10.4**	**937**	Bullseye	**7.0**	**879**
	13.4	838		9.4	832		6.3	810
HS-6*	**12.0**	**945**	AA #5	**11.6**	**927**	231	**8.0**	**852**
	11.0	917		10.6	840		7.2	780



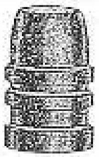
Cowboy ACTION SHOOTING DATA

45 Caliber **Cast** **Bullets** **225-230** **Grain** Sect. Dens. (225) .156 Sect. Dens. (230) .159	45-225 CAV	45-230 CAS			
Lead Alloy	hard	hard			
Diameter Sized	0.454"	0.454"			
Ballistic Coef.	0.128	0.126			
C. O. L. Tested At	1.600"	1.585"			
RCBS Mould No.	82081	82308			

NOTE: Velocities for these loads fired from Colt SAA with 5.5 inch barrel.

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
SR 4756	**10.3**	**917**	Unique	**8.5**	**850**	Bullseye	**6.0**	**815**
	9.5	793		7.8	804		5.0	709
H. Universal	**8.5**	**887**	Tite-Group	**6.2**	**832**	AA #2 Impr.	**6.8**	**799**
	7.8	813		5.6	775		6.4	735
Viht. N350	**9.7**	**857**	AA Nitro 100	**5.9**	**831**	American Select	**6.0**	**782**
	8.8	783		5.1	782		5.5	724
231	**7.2**	**852**	700-X	**6.0**	**816**			
	6.5	788		5.2	787			

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.



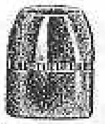
We sell bullet moulds, not cast bullets.
These bullets were cast in RCBS moulds.
Contact your dealer for more information
on the RCBS line of premium moulds.

45 Caliber Cast Bullets 255 Grain
Sect. Density .177

	45-255 SWC					
Lead Alloy	hard					
Diameter Sized	0.454"					
Ballistic Coef.	0.165					
C. O. L. Tested At	1.665" †					
RCBS Mould No.	82050					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Viht. N110	**16.8**	**914**	Viht. N350	**9.5**	**847**	231	**7.0**	**784**
	15.8	809		8.6	717		6.1	700
H. Universal	**8.0**	**883**	Unique	**8.5**	**846**	AA Nitro 100	**5.5**	**752**
	7.2	815		7.7	789		5.0	675
SR 4756	**10.0**	**865**	Power Pistol	**8.3**	**810**			
	9.0	808		7.3	763			

† NOTE: Exceeds industry maximum cartridge length. Not for use in repeating rifles. Most 45 Colt revolvers will accept cartridges of this length.

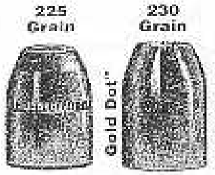


.451" Dia. 200 Grain
Sect. Density .140

	45 JHP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.138					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.555"					
Spear Part No.	4477					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
HS-6*	**12.5**	**1081**	Bullseye	**7.9**	**994**	700-X	**7.1**	**921**
	11.0	945		7.4	920		6.1	852
Unique	**9.8**	**1048**	Green Dot	**8.8**	**991**	Power Pistol	**9.2**	**885**
	8.8	940		7.8	868		8.6	829
Herco	**10.0**	**1032**	H. Universal	**9.2**	**985**	Tite-Group	**6.8**	**865**
	9.0	928		8.4	892		6.2	788
SR 7625	**8.7**	**1002**	Red Dot	**7.6**	**981**			
	7.7	880		7.1	911			

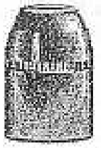
Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.
* CCI Magnum Primer used with this powder.



.451" Dia. 225 Grain 230 Grain

	45 Mag-JHP	45 GD-HP				
Sectional Density	0.158	0.162				
Ballistic Coefficient	0.169	0.143				
C.O.L. Tested At	1.590"	1.600"				
Spear Part No.	4479	4483				

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Blue Dot	**13.0**	**1036**	Unique	**9.0**	**932**	Power Pistol	**9.5**	**878**
	12.0	967		8.1	827		8.5	823
SR 4756	**11.0**	**982**	Herco	**9.4**	**918**	H. Universal	**9.0**	**873**
	10.3	836		8.4	839		8.2	819
Viht. N110	**18.0**	**946**	AA #5	**11.8**	**912**	231	**8.3**	**870**
	16.0	778		10.8	840		7.5	804
HS-6*	**11.8**	**936**	Bullseye	**7.1**	**890**			
	10.8	876		6.4	825			



.451" Dia. 260 Grain
Sect. Density .183

	45 Mag-JHP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.183					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.590"					
Speer Part No.	4481					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Blue Dot	**13.0**	**941**	H. Universal	**8.9**	**897**	Power Pistol	**8.4**	**852**
	12.0	820		8.0	753		7.8	749
HS-6*	**11.5**	**925**	Unique	**8.7**	**890**	231	**8.0**	**843**
	10.5	810		7.9	799		7.2	725
AA #5	**11.4**	**898**	3N37	**10.4**	**875**	Bullseye	**7.1**	**841**
	10.4	797		9.4	739		6.4	785

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.
* CCI Magnum Primer used with this powder.

With the introduction of stronger revolvers and pistols chambered for the 45 Colt cartridge, handloaders felt that the performance of the cartridge could be enhanced by loading to higher pressure levels. The Ruger Blackhawk and the Thompson/Center Contender can both handle somewhat higher pressures than traditional 45 Colt revolvers. The resulting increase in velocity makes the 45 Colt a potent hunting handgun.

However, there are limitations. Some handloaders have assembled 45 Colt loads that exceed the pressures of the 44 Magnum! The 45 Colt case is not as strong as the 44 Magnum case and you must not attempt to load it as high, regardless of the gun model. The loads Speer developed are roughly halfway between standard 45 Colt and 44 Magnum pressures. This results in a significant increase in energy, yet the loads were safe in Speer's test firearms. If you need more power than this, buy a 44 Magnum or a 454 Casull!

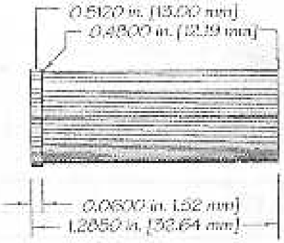
The bullets we selected for these loads are designed for high-velocity use. The 185 and 230 grain Gold Dot bullets are intended for the 45 Auto and standard pressure 45 Colt loads. Penetration with either bullet is limited at high velocities and it is difficult to adequately crimp them to prevent their moving in the case under heavy recoil.

All bullets shown should be heavily roll-crimped. We crimped the 300 grain UNI-COR soft point to the REAR cannelure for a cartridge length of 1.640". Do not seat them to the front cannelure with these loads as excessive pressure will result. Loads for the 300 grain bullet were developed in a copper crusher test barrel; they operate at higher pressure than those for lighter bullets, up to 25,000 cup. Even so, they showed no pressure signs in our test revolver.

When expanding case necks, make sure that your expander plug is no larger than .450" to insure a firm grip on the bullet. We recommend that these loads be used in new or once-fired cases known to be of recent manufacture. Older cases of the "balloon head" style aren't strong enough to hold modern pressures.

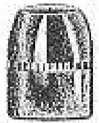
Important Safety Notice

! These loads are intended for use only in Ruger Blackhawk and Vaquero revolvers, and the Thompson/Center Contender. They are not to be used in any other make or model of firearm! Do not substitute components, or try to load higher than the data presented.



Max. Case Length: 1.285"
Trim-to Length: 1.275"
Max. Cart. Length: 1.600"
RCBS Shellholder: #20
Barrel Length: 7.50"
Twist: 1-16"

Test Firearm: Ruger Blackhawk
Case: W-W
Primers: CCI 300, 350



.451" Dia. 200 Grain Sect. Density .140	45 JHP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.136					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.555"					
Speer Part No.	4477					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
SR 4759	25.5C	1333	Unique	11.8	1301	Herco	12.2	1245
	23.5	1224		11.3	1259		11.7	1199
HS-6*	14.6	1313	2400	20.3	1287	231	10.5	1238
	13.6	1220		18.3	1162		10.0	1198

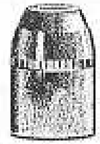
(RUGER & T/C CONTENDER ONLY)

.45 COLT - SPEER BULLETS

.451" Dia. **225 Grain** Sect. Density .169	45 Mag-JHP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.169					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.590"					
Speer Part No.	4479					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
Blue Dot	**16.0**	**1343**	Bullseye	10.5	1229	Unique	**11.5**	**1191**
	14.0	1216		9.5	1165		10.5	1107
Vlht. N110	23.0C	1339	HS-6*	**14.0**	**1198**	AA #5	**13.5**	**1157**
	21.0	1209		13.0	1146		12.5	1085
2400	**19.0**	**1259**	SR 4759	23.5C	**1198**	231	10.5	1127
	17.0	1156		21.5	1094		9.5	1011

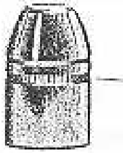
Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution. C = Compressed Load
* CCI Magnum Primer used with this powder.



.451" Dia. **260 Grain** Sect. Density .183	45 Mag-JHP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.183					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.590"					
Speer Part No.	4481					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
296*	**20.5**	**1183**	WAP	**12.5**	**1133**	Unique	**10.5**	1079
	19.0	1096		11.5	1045		9.5	987
2400	**18.0**	**1180**	HS-7*	**14.7**	**1123**	231	**10.2**	1067
	16.0	1045		13.7	1021		9.2	987
H110*	**20.0**	**1151**	Herco	**11.0**	**1082**	Bullseye	**9.4**	**1064**
	18.5	1042		10.0	996		8.5	1005

(RUGER & T/C CONTENDER ONLY)



NOTE: Seat bullet to rear cannelure. These loads were developed using copper crusher equipment to a pressure of 25,000 CUP.

.451" Dia. **300 Grain** Sect. Density .211	45 UCSP					
Ballistic Coefficient	0.199					
C.O.L. Tested At	1.640"					
Speer Part No.	4485					

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
296*	**23.0**	**1193**	2400	**17.5**	**1048**	H4227	**20.5**	**985**
	20.7	1084		15.8	938		18.5	901
H110*	**23.5**	**1156**	AA #9	**15.5**	**1041**	Unique	**10.5**	**952**
	21.1	974		15.0	959		9.5	880
HS-7*	**15.5**	**1057**	SR 4759	**22.5**	**1029**			
	14.0	975		20.3	825			

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.
* CCI Magnum Primer used with this powder.

SHOOTER'S LOG

45 COLT (RIFLE)

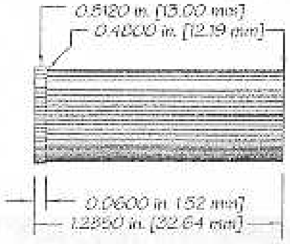
Lead Bullet Loads for Cowboy Action Shooting

Although most widely known as a handgun cartridge, the 45 Colt is seeing increased use in rifles and carbines for Cowboy Action Shooting (CAS). The loads here are intended expressly for this sport. They use bullets from the RCBS 45-225 CAV mould or the 45-230 CAS mould. Both bullets are profiled to work well in both rifles and handguns, and have proved quite accurate in both.

A CAS cartridge must provide reliable feeding in lever-action rifles. A significant factor in obtaining reliability is paying attention to loaded cartridge lengths. When using the CAV bullet, best results are obtained by trimming all cases to 1.275 inch. If seated in cases that are at the top of the length spec, this bullet may be slightly over the 1.600 inch maximum cartridge length for this cartridge; this could causing feeding problems in some rifles. Trimming cases to uniform length should give reliable feeding with the bullet firmly crimped in the groove provided. The newer 230 grain CAS bullet does not require any special attention. It should produce a cartridge of proper length in most cases.

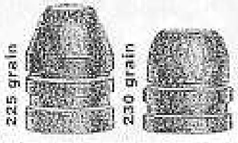
DO NOT LOAD LIGHTER CHARGES THAN THE LISTED STARTING LOADS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCE. Doing so can cause unacceptably high shot-to-shot variations in velocity and pressure, and increases the risk of a bullet lodging in the bore. Starting loads were carefully chosen to keep the minimum pressures above 12,000 psi, an important factor when loading rather small volumes of smokeless powder in this large case. We also used a substantial roll crimp to increase bullet pull and to prevent bullets from telescoping into the cases in a tubular magazine.

Maximum loads listed here do not exceed the industry limit of 14,000 psi. For additional information on this cartridge, see the Handgun Section.



Max. Case Length: 1.285"
Trim-to Length: 1.275"
Max. Cart. Length: 1.600"
RCBS Shellholder: #20
Barrel Length: 16"
Twist: 1-38"

Test Firearm: Winchester Model 94 "Trapper"
Case: W-W
Primers: CCI 300



Cowboy ACTION SHOOTING DATA

45 Caliber Cast Bullets 225-230 Grain Sect. Dens. .158/.162	45-225 CAV	45-230 CAS				
Lead Alloy	hard	hard				
Diameter Sized	0.454"	0.454"				
Ballistic Coef.	0.128	0.126				
C. O. L. Tested At	1.600"	1.590"				
RCBS Mould No.	82081	82309				

Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.	Powder	Wt. Grs.	Mzl.Vel.
H. Universal	**8.5**	**1086**	231	**7.2**	**1029**	AA Nitro 100	**5.9**	**983**
	7.8	991		6.5	942		5.1	876
SR 4756	**10.3**	**1071**	Tite-Group	**6.2**	**1013**	AA #2 Impr.	**6.8**	**978**
	9.5	1019		5.6	954		6.4	914
Viht. N350	**9.7**	**1059**	700-X	**6.0**	**1004**	American Select	**6.0**	**936**
	8.8	962		5.2	913		5.5	882
Unique	**8.5**	**1043**	Bullseye	**6.0**	**990**			
	7.8	974		5.0	873			

Notes: Bold print denotes maximum loads. They should be used with caution.

We sell bullet moulds, not cast bullets.
These bullets were cast in RCBS moulds.
Contact your dealer for more information
on the RCBS line of premium moulds.

Reloading Data Introduction:

The data listed in this section have been tested by our technicians and found to be safe when loaded with our test components and fired (under our laboratory controlled conditions) in our testing equipment. Since Lyman Products Corporation has no control over the manufacture of the various components listed, the actual loading, choice or condition of the firearms and components used, no responsibility for use of this data is implied or assumed.

Components:

The reader should bear in mind that the components listed are not of Lyman manufacture. Therefore, it is impossible that production changes affecting ballistic performance can occur at any time without our knowledge. If there is ever a question as to the correctness of the component specified, write to its manufacturer.

Starting Load:

It is essential that the reader begin with the suggested weight of powder listed in this bracket and work up slowly (following load development precautions) to his best performing load. The novice should use only the "starting load" for a period of time until he builds confidence and experience. Never decrease this charge as an increase in pressure could be encountered.

Maximum Load:

All loads which are listed as maximum were tested and classified as maximum by our technicians in accordance with our laboratory standards. **Under no circumstances should these loads be exceeded**, nor should they be quickly accepted by the reader as a safe working maximum for his particular rifle or pistol.

Many reloaders misinterpret the meaning of the "maximum load." They wrongly assume that if a high pressure load proved safe in a test laboratory then it is equally safe under any and all conditions. This is not true. The reader must start with the "starting load" and work up his load carefully. Working with his particular firearm and component combination, he may encounter signs of excess pressure before he reaches the maximum charge listed.

The technician classifies a load as maximum after carefully considering many aspects of its ballistic performance. **The maximum average pressure of the load is not the only criteria.** Often a load having an acceptable maximum average pressure will be rejected (or reduced) due to its erratic performance. Accuracy must also be considered, particularly when dealing with cast lead alloy bullets. In all instances, the maximum listing represents what our technicians consider to be the maximum working combination for the bullet, powder and caliber listed. These loads do not exceed SAAMI standards.

Accuracy Loads:

When a load is noted as such in the data tables proper, it means that the given combination of components produced the most uniform internal ballistics of any load tested utilizing that particular bullet design.

Unless noted in "Comments," the accuracy load was not fired at targets. The load, however, does have a high potential--assuming all external factors are optimun--for producing outstanding accuracy since uniform internal ballistics are critical to accuracy on target. You cannot have one without the other.

Test Parameters:

Velocities shown were taken at fifteen feet and not corrected to the muzzle.

Each test string began with a clean dry barrel and consisted of ten shots.

Loads exhibiting erratic internal ballistics were not persued.

We had no problem with leading in any of our testing.

Bullets:

Bullet numbers are listed in the introductory specifications for each cartridge and in the headline above the appropriate data block--along with an illustration of that particular bullet.

Please note these bullets are artists' rendering. Comparing your bullet against the drawing could reveal minor differences. Furthermore, minor changes are sometimes made to bullets. These drawings, which appear throughout the data sections, are for general reference only and are not intended to be a precise representation.

Bullet alloy is noted as is the exact weight of each tested bullet.

Not all cast bullets within a given caliber are intended to perform equally. We have used them in the most appropriate chamberings.

Powders:

We have limited our testing to those powders which are manufactured in the United States and which are readily available to the consumer. The following brands are listed: Dupont (now IMR), Winchester, Hercules, Alcan, Hodgdon and Gearhart-Owen.

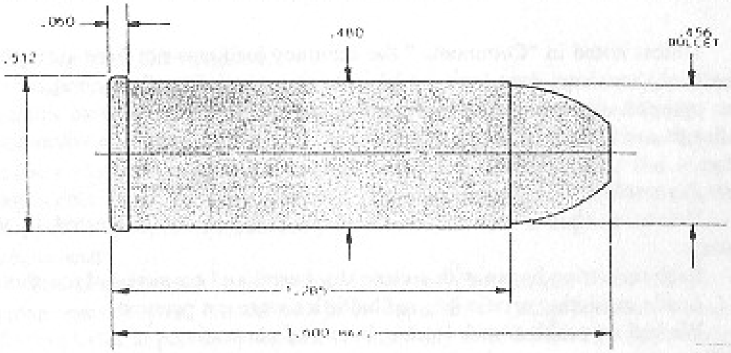
Compressed Loads:

All compressed loads are indicated with a +. Depending upon the volume of the specific cartridge case used by the reader, he may, or may not, have difficulty starting bullets in such loads. If the bullet will not start, reduce the load sufficiently so that 1/10" of space remains in the case neck. Start the bullet into the case and use whatever additional pressure is required to fully seat the bullet. Failure to comply could result in a bulged case.

Filler Wads:

Dacron filler wads in the form of 1/4-inch thick batting were used in conjunction with cast bullet loads, where indicated. This material can be purchased in most yard-goods stores. It should be cut into squares, which seal the case.

When developing a load, if a wad is desired, its should be used from the beginning as the charge weight is increased. It should never be added as an afterthought, once a maximum load has been established, since its presence could result in a pressure increase of 2,000 CUP or more.



COMMENTS:

This cartridge is often mistakenly called the 45 Long Colt. Care must be taken when sizing as the tiny rim of this cartridge does not afford a good purchase for the shell holder. If undue force is needed to withdraw the case, the rim may tear away leaving the case jammed in the die.

Hercules Unique is highly favored with all bullets for accuracy with this cartridge.

Pre-World War II revolvers normally have a groove diameter of 0.454 inch. Later handguns are nominally equipped with barrels having a groove diameter of 0.451 inch. If in doubt about your handgun, slug the bore and size bullets accordingly. The first step of the expanding plug used must be 0.001" to 0.0015" under actual bullet diameter or bullets will not be tight in the case neck.

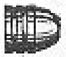
Bullet #452424, the Elmer Keith bullet, has replaced bullet #454424 in all our data. The bullets are identical except that #452424 is a few thousandths smaller in diameter. This is our most popular bullet in this caliber. Carefully control seating depths of cast bullets to the listed length. Crimp #452424 on the front edge of the forward driving band. Number 454190 should be used for larger 0.454" groove diameter revolvers and should be crimped on the ogive.

TEST COMPONENTS:

Cases	Remington; Winchester
Trim-to Length	1.280"
Primers	Winchester 7-111; Remington 2½
Primer Size	Large Pistol
Lyman Shell Holder	No. 11
Cast Bullets Used	(Sized to .452" dia.) #454190, 250 gr. #452424, 255 gr. #454 Round Ball, 142 gr. #45468, 175 gr.

TEST SPECIFICATIONS:
(Velocity Only)

Firearm Used	Ruger Blackhawk
Barrel Length	7½"
Twist	1-16"
Groove Dia.	.451"



#45468

175 gr., (#2 Alloy) 1.560" OAL

POWDER	Sugg. Starting Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.	Max. Load Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.
++Red Dot	4.0	475	—	7.0	885	—
++Green Dot	4.5	490	—	7.5	935	—
++Unique	6.0	595	—	10.0	1035	—
++700X	4.0	435	—	7.0	910	—
++PB	4.5	440	—	7.5	845	—
++SR-7625	6.0	510	—	9.5	925	—
231	7.0	770	—	9.0	1041	—
HS-5	9.5	818	—	11.0	878	—
AL-5	9.0	732	—	11.0	959	—

Note: Loads shown in shaded panels are maximum.
++ Designates use of Winchester cases and primers.

.45 COLT - LYMAN BULLETS

#454190

250 gr., (#2 Alloy) 1.600" OAL

POWDER	Sugg. Starting Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.	Max. Load Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.
++Red Dot	4.5	535	—	6.5	835	—
++Green Dot	4.5	505	—	7.0	835	—
++Unique	6.0	595	—	‡9.0	875	—
++700X	4.5	535	—	6.0	800	—
++PB	5.0	545	—	7.5	820	—
++SR-7625	6.0	555	—	8.5	890	—
231	6.5	762	—	7.4	931	—

#452424

255 gr., (#2 Alloy) 1.575 " OAL

POWDER	Sugg. Starting Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.	Max. Load Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.
++Red Dot	4.5	550	—	6.0	780	—
++Green Dot	4.5	500	—	6.5	765	—
++Unique	6.0	590	—	8.5	845	—
++700X	4.5	535	—	6.0	785	—
++PB	5.0	530	—	7.0	750	—
++SR-7625	6.0	555	—	8.0	835	—
HS-6	7.8	630	—	9.5	761	—

Note: Loads shown in shaded panels are maximum.

++ Designates use of Winchester cases and primers.

‡ Designates a factory velocity duplication load.

.45 COLT - LYMAN BULLETS

#454 Round Ball

142 gr., (#2 Alloy) 1.440 " OAL

POWDER	Sugg. Starting Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.	Max. Load Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.
Red Dot	—	—	—	4.3	536	—
Unique	—	—	—	6.5	521	—
SR-7625	—	—	—	7.2	602	—

Note: Loads shown in shaded panels are maximum.

SHOOTER'S LOG

.45 COLT - LYMAN BULLETS
(RUGER & T/C ONLY)

COMMENTS:

Care must be taken when sizing as the tiny rim of this cartridge does not afford a good purchase for the shell holder. If undue force is needed to withdraw the case, the rim may tear away leaving the case jammed in the die.

Unique is highly favored with all bullets for accuracy in this cartridge.

The first step of the expanding plug used must be 0.001" to 0.0015" under actual bullet diameter or bullets will not be tight in the case neck.

Bullet #452424, the Elmer Keith bullet, has replaced bullet #454424 in all our data. The bullets are identical except that #452424 is a few thousandths smaller in diameter. This is our most popular bullet in this caliber. Carefully control seating depths of cast bullets to the listed length.

TEST COMPONENTS:

Cases	Winchester
Trim-to Length	1.275"
Primers	Winchester 7-111
Primer Size	Large Pistol
Lyman Shell Holder	No. 11
Cast Bullets Used	(Sized to .452" dia.) #454190, 250 gr. #452424, 255 gr. #45468, 175 gr.

TEST SPECIFICATIONS:
(Velocity Only)

Firearm Used	Thompson/Center Contender
Barrel Length	10"
Twist	1-24"
Groove Dia.	.452"

.45 COLT - LYMAN BULLETS
(RUGER & T/C ONLY)

#45468

175 gr., [#2 Alloy] 1.560" OAL

POWDER	Sugg. Starting Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.	Max. Load Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.
Red Dot	7.0	885	—	9.0	1100	—
Green Dot	7.5	935	—	9.5	1098	—
Unique	10.0	1035	—	11.5	1192	—
700X	7.0	910	—	9.0	1159	—
PB	7.5	845	—	10.4	1140	—
SR-7625	9.5	925	—	10.5	1117	—
231	9.0	1041	—	10.0	1114	—
HS-5	11.0	878	—	12.5	1081	—
AL-5	11.0	959	—	*13.0	1107	—

#454190

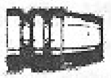
250 gr., [#2 Alloy] 1.600 " OAL

POWDER	Sugg. Starting Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.	Max. Load Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.
++Red Dot	6.5	835	—	9.4	1097	—
++Unique	‡9.0	875	—	11.5	1185	—
++700X	6.0	800	—	9.0	1122	—
++PB	7.5	820	—	10.0	1127	—
++SR-7625	8.5	890	—	10.5	1150	—
231	7.4	931	—	10.0	1088	—
HS-5	9.8	859	—	12.0	1017	—
AL-5	9.6	869	—	*12.0	1003	—

Note: Loads shown in shaded panels are maximum.
* Designates potentially most accurate load.
++ Designates use of Winchester cases and primers.
‡ Designates factory velocity duplication load.

.45 COLT - LYMAN BULLETS

(RUGER & T/C ONLY)



#452424/#454424
255 gr., (#2 Alloy) 1.575" OAL

POWDER	Sugg. Starting Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.	Max. Load Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.
++Red Dot	6.0	780	—	8.3	1018	—
++Unique	8.5	845	—	10.2	1081	—
++700X	6.0	785	—	8.0	1039	—
++PB	7.0	750	—	8.5	986	—
++SR-7625	8.0	835	—	9.7	1060	—
630	11.5	768	—	*15.5	1024	—
HS-6	9.5	761	—	14.0	1145	—
AL-7	10.0	756	—	14.0	1064	—

Note: Loads shown in shaded panels are maximum.
++ Designates use of Winchester cases and primers.

.45 COLT - LYMAN BULLETS

(RIFLE DATA)

COMMENTS:

This cartridge is often erroneously called the 45 Long Colt. Care must be taken when sizing as the tiny rim of this cartridge does not afford a good purchase for the shell holder. If undue force is needed to withdraw the case, the rim may tear away leaving the case jammed in the die.

Unique is highly favored with all bullets for accuracy with this cartridge.

TEST COMPONENTS:

Cases	Winchester
Trim-to Length	1.280"
Primers	Winchester #7-111, WLP
Primer Size	Large Pistol
Lyman Shell Holder	No.11
Cast Bullets Used	(Sized to .452" dia.) #454190, 250 gr. #454424, 250 gr.

TEST SPECIFICATIONS:
(Velocity Only)

Firearm Used	Winchester Model 94AE
Barrel Length	16"
Twist	1-38"
Groove Dia.	.451"

.45 COLT - LYMAN BULLETS

(RIFLE DATA)

#454190

250 gr., (#2 Alloy) 1.600 " OAL

POWDER	Sugg. Starting Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.	Max. Load Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.
Red Dot	4.5	763	—	6.5	1002	—
231	6.5	967	—	7.4	1069	—
700X	4.5	816	—	6.0	992	—
AA 5	10.5	1160	—	11.0	1237	—
Unique	6.0	809	—	9.0	1157	—
SR-7625	6.0	767	—	8.5	1106	—
AA N100	6.0	961	—	6.5	1020	—

#452424

250 gr., (#2 Alloy) 1.575 " OAL

POWDER	Sugg. Starting Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.	Max. Load Grains	Velocity fps	Pressure C.U.P.
Red Dot	4.5	746	—	6.0	947	—
700X	4.5	809	—	6.0	993	—
AA 5	10.0	1119	—	10.7	1204	—
Unique	6.0	836	—	8.5	1110	—
HS-6	7.8	704	—	9.5	911	—
SR-7625	6.0	775	—	8.0	1054	—
AA N100	5.5	912	—	6.2	997	—

Note: Loads shown in shaded panels are maximum.

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EVERYTHING WE MAKE IS GUARANTEED FOR LIFE OR FOREVER: WHICHEVER COMES FIRST.

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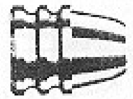
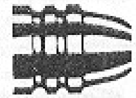
.45 COLT - RCBS BULLETS

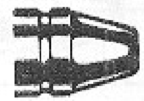
Gun: Colt SAA
Barrel: 5½″
Twist: 1-16
Cases: W-W
Primers: CCI 300, *350

45-185-BB


Wt. 185 GR.
Dia. .452″
Lube: Pistol

POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL	POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL
HS5	*9.0	881	**Bullseye**	7.8	1004
	*8.0	771		6.8	881
231	8.6	1011	**700X**	6.8	930
	7.6	903		5.8	772

45-200-SWC


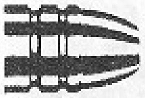
45-201-SWC


Wt. 200 GR.
Dia. .452″
Lube: Pistol

POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL	POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL
HS6	*12.0	1007	SR **7625**	8.0	895
	*11.0	933		7.0	781
Herco	9.0	928	**231**	7.9	943
	8.0	814		6.9	832

*DENOTES USE OF CCI #350 MAGNUM PRIMER

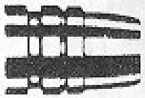
45-250-FN



Wt. 250 GR.
Dia. .452"
Lube: Pistol

POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL	POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL
SR 4756	8.5 7.5	727 644	231	7.2 6.2	816 696
Unique	8.4 7.4	902 806	HP38	6.7 5.7	852 735

45-255-SWC



Wt. 255 GR.
Dia. .452"
Lube: Pistol

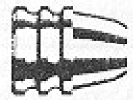
POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL	POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL
HS6	*10.1 * 9.1	839 736	Red Dot	6.5 5.5	814 696
PB	7.0 6.0	758 661	700X	5.7 5.2	758 695

*DENOTES USE OF CCI #350 MAGNUM PRIMER

45 Colt for Ruger and Contender Only

Gun: Ruger Blackhawk
Barrel: 7½"
Twist: 1-16
Cases: W-W
Primers: CCI 300, *350

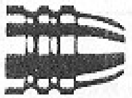
45-185-BB



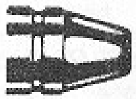
Wt. 185 GR.
Dia. .452"
Lube: Pistol

POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL	POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL
HS5	12.0 11.0	1176 1055	SR 7625	10.0 9.0	1229 1114
Unique	11.5 10.5	1319 1212	Red Dot	8.5 8.0	1215 1135
Bullseye	10.5 9.5	1340 1223	231	9.5 9.0	1188 1136

45-200-SWC



45-201-SWC

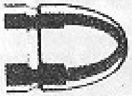


Wt. 200 GR.
Dia. .452"
Lube: Pistol

POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL	POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL
2400	*19.8 *17.8	1321 1145	Herco	11.7 10.7	1320 1201
HS6	*14.8 *13.8	1392 1259	231	10.6 9.6	1314 1190
SR 4756	12.0 11.0	1344 1222	PB	9.5 8.5	1196 1073

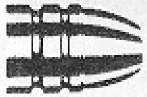
*DENOTES USE OF CCI #350 MAGNUM PRIMER

.45 COLT - RCBS BULLETS

45-230-RN 

Wt. 225 GR.
Dia. .452"
Lube: Pistol

POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL	POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL
SR **4759**	23.0	1284	**HS6**	*13.9	1286
	21.0	1177		*12.9	1198
IMR **4227**	*21.5	1204	**231**	10.0	1242
	*19.5	1089		9.0	1128
Blue Dot	14.9	1232	**Bullseye**	9.0	1107
	13.9	1131		8.0	976

45-250-FN 

Wt. 250 GR.
Dia. .452"
Lube: Pistol

POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL	POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL
2400	*17.9	1242	**231**	9.3	1085
	*15.9	1121		8.8	1022
HS7	*15.0	1239	**Bullseye**	9.0	1123
	*13.0	1088		8.0	992
SR **7625**	10.0	1242	**700X**	8.7	1135
	9.0	1113		8.2	1062

*DENOTES USE OF CCI #350 MAGNUM PRIMER

.45 COLT - ACCURATE POWDERS

Introduction

There has been a re-evaluation of the criteria for selecting data for inclusion. This means there will be some disagreement with previous data. The data in this guide takes precedence over **all** prior publications. ***Previous editions of this loading guide should be discarded.***

For instance, we left out load combinations that were 'position sensitive'. This is what occurs when the load density is low. Velocity with the powder at the bullet is different from the velocity with the powder at the primer. More of these were noted with the ball propellants than with the extruded propellants.

In light of the growth of IPSC shooting, 38 Super Auto loads that make the 'major' classification (bullet weight x velocity = 175,000) are identified. While we have tested many combinations of components in 9mm Luger to attempt to meet 'major' requirements, we have not been able to find a load that makes the power floor for 'major' without exceeding SAAMI pressure recommendations. And while we were able to find loads for 38 Super Auto, they were not with lighter bullets. Turn to the data section for specific details.

In the charge tables, the 'START' charge listed for each load is our suggested beginning point with the components listed. There is the possibility that changing the named components could cause the maximum charge to be excessive, thus a reduction of the charge would be necessary. Some batches of military brass may require reducing the maximum charge by 8-12% to keep chamber pressure in line.

If you find signs of excessive pressure while using loads in this loading guide, STOP TESTING and verify all data and loading procedures. If they seem to be in order, check with our lab facility before proceeding.

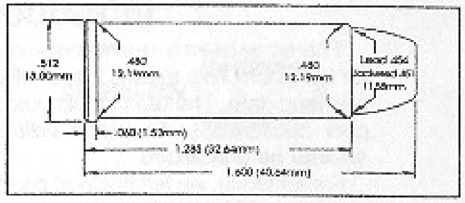
Charge weights were obtained using industry standard pressure barrels. When time permitted, off-the-shelf weapons were used to obtain velocity figures. The guns used are noted.

In reloading, the prime concern should always be SAFETY. **Always** wear eye protection when reloading, even when working with the 'non-volatile' components. **Always** keep the reloading area clean. **Never** have more than one propellant within easy reach at any given time. Avoid having similar looking bullets of different weights on the bench at the same time. Read the safety notes before loading.

We have not found magnum primers to offer any particular advantage with our handgun powders. But, there are some rifle cartridges where they were used.

Handgun loads using the slower powders (No.7, No.9. and 1680) require heavy crimp and high bullet pull to insure consistency - particularly with cast bullet loads or in extremely cold weather. Be sure your dies are capable of this, otherwise the consistency of the load will be affected.

In the text, bullet weights for cast bullets - identified by (L) are actual weights, not the nominal weights.



The .45 Colt was introduced as one of the first cartridges for the Model P Colt Single Action Army revolver.

This cartridge was adopted by the U.S. Army in 1875 and served as their official military handgun cartridge for 17 years.

As originally developed, the .45 Colt was loaded with 40 grains of FFg powder with a 255 grain lead bullet for about 810 FPS.

The .45 Colt has been around for 120 years and still has a loyal following. It has become popular to fire higher pressure loads in modern revolvers such as the Ruger Blackhawk. Firing such loads in the blackpowder revolvers and replicas have caused disastrous results.

The large case capacity of the .45 Colt combined with its low SAAMI Maximum Average Pressure of 14,000 C.U.P produces a cartridge that cannot efficiently utilize most modern smokeless propellants. **Accurate Nitro 100** is an excellent choice to produce consistent ballistics at low pressures due to its low bulk density and excellent ignition characteristics.

.45 COLT

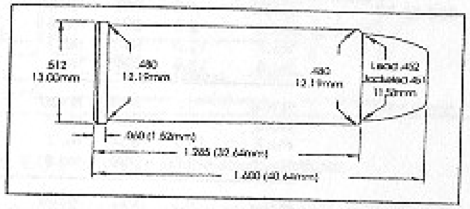
Gun	DOUGLAS	Max Length	1.285"
Barrel Length	7½"	Trim Length	1.265"
Primer	CCI 300	OAL Max	1.600"
Case	WW	OAL Min	1.550"

	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS				Cartridge	
Bullet	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.	C.U.P.	Length	Comment
215 (L) SWC	N100	6.3	846	N100	7.0	961	14,000	1.575"	CP
	No.5	10.9	904	No.5	12.1	1027	12,500		
225 (L) FN	N100	6.2	821	N100	6.9	933	13,600	1.620"	* CP
	No.5	10.9	909	No.5	12.1	1033	13,600		
240 (L) SWC	N100	5.9	799	N100	6.6	908	14,000	1.570"	Clements
	No.5	10.2	869	No.5	11.3	988	14,000		
255 (L) SWC	N100	5.6	780	N100	6.2	866	13,400	1.600"	LY454424
	No.5	9.4	846	No.5	10.4	961	13,400		
SRA 185 JHP	N100	6.8	944	N100	7.6	1073	14,000	1.575"	
	No.5	10.8	946	No.5	12.0	1075	12,200		
HDY 200 XTP	N100	6.4	878	N100	7.1	998	13,900	1.595"	
	No.5	10.4	908	No.5	11.5	1032	13,400		
HDY 230 XTP	N100	6.1	793	N100	6.8	901	14,000	1.595"	
	No.5	9.9	853	No.5	11.0	969	14,000		
SRA 240 JHP	N100	6.0	774	N100	6.7	880	14,000	1.590"	
	No.5	9.5	854	No.5	10.5	970	14,000		
HDY 250 XTP	N100	6.0	616	N100	6.7	700	14,000	1.570"	
	No.5	9.9	704	No.5	11.0	800	14,000		
SPR 260 JHP	N100	5.9	598	N100	6.5	679	13,300	1.600"	
	No.5	9.5	671	No.5	10.5	762	14,000		

* Over SAAMI MAX OAL

(RUGER & T/C LOADS ONLY)

.45 COLT (RUGER & T/C ONLY)



This loading data was developed in response to shooters' request for more powerful loads for use in Ruger and T/C handguns.

These loads develop the same pressures as +P .45 ACP loads. Despite occasional recommendations by other sources, do not handload .45 Colt ammo to .44 Magnum pressure levels. The .45 Colt brass is not as strong as .44 Magnum cases.

These loads must not be used in older, weaker firearms but should prove entirely satisfactory in the firearms for which they are intended.

45 COLT (RUGER & T/C ONLY)

Gun	DOUGLAS	Max Length	1.285"
Barrel Length	7½"	Trim Length	1.265"
Primer	CCI 300	OAL Max	1.600"
Case	WW	OAL Min	1.550"

	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS				Cartridge	
Bullet	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.	C.U.P.	Length	Comment
215 (L) SWC GC	N100	8.1	1023	N100	9.0	1162	20,700	1.550"	CP
	No.5	12.2	1090	No.5	13.6	1239	20,800		
	No.7	14.9	1104	No.7	16.6	1254	20,900		
225 (L) SWC	N100	7.9	1005	N100	8.8	1142	20,800	1.575"	CP
	No.5	12.2	1076	No.5	13.6	1223	21,400		
	No.7	14.8	1087	No.7	16.4	1235	21,000		
230 (L) RN	N100	7.7	965	N100	8.6	1097	20,300	1.600"	CP
	No.5	12.2	1055	No.5	13.5	1210	20,900		
	No.7	14.6	1062	No.7	16.2	1207	20,600		
240 (L) SWC	N100	7.6	954	N100	8.4	1084	20,300	1.570"	Clements
	No.5	11.1	1010	No.5	12.3	1148	20,000		
	No.7	14.1	1052	No.7	15.7	1196	20,600		
255 (L) SWC	N100	7.3	928	N100	8.1	1055	20,200	1.600"	LY454424
	No.5	10.6	950	No.5	11.8	1080	18,200		
	No.7	13.6	1010	No.7	15.1	1148	19,700		
	No.9	15.8	1038	No.9	17.6	1180	20,100		

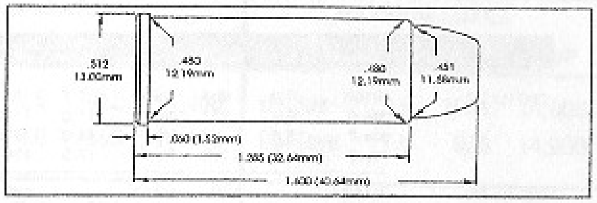
(RUGER & T/C LOADS ONLY)

Bullet	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS				Cartridge Length	Comment
	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.	C.U.P.		
280 (L) TC	N100	6.9	865	N100	7.7	983	19,100	1.650"	* LBT
	No.5	9.9	891	No.5	11.0	1012	18,300		
	No.7	12.6	940	No.7	14.0	1058	19,000		
	No.9	15.8	998	No.9	17.5	1134	19,300		
300 (L) FN	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.585"	D&J
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	804	No.7	13.0	914	19,200		
	No.9	13.5	798	No.9	15.0	907	17,600		
SRA 200 FPJ	N100	8.3	1021	N100	9.2	1160	19,300	1.560"	
	No.5	13.1	1120	No.5	14.6	1273	20,000		
	No.7	14.8	1055	No.7	16.4	1199	15,300		
HDY 230 RN FMJ	N100	7.8	933	N100	8.7	1060	19,600	1.600"	
	No.5	11.7	1000	No.5	13.0	1136	18,600		
	No.7	13.9	1018	No.7	15.4	1157	18,500		
SRA 240 JHC	N100	7.7	920	N100	8.5	1045	20,100	1.570"	
	No.5	11.7	970	No.5	13.0	1102	18,300		
	No.7	14.0	1010	No.7	15.5	1148	20,400		
NOS 250 JHP	N100	7.5	887	N100	8.3	1008	19,300	1.585"	
	No.5	10.9	902	No.5	12.1	1025	18,100		
	No.7	13.7	971	No.7	15.2	1103	19,600		
SPR 260 JHP	N100	7.3	862	N100	8.1	980	19,700	1.595"	
	No.5	10.7	900	No.5	11.9	1023	19,300		
	No.7	13.5	953	No.7	15.0	1083	19,400		
SPR 300 SP	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.585"	
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	730	No.7	13.0	830	20,300		
	No.9	13.5	745	No.9	15.0	847	19,200		
HDY 300 XTP	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.580"	
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	693	No.7	13.0	788	20,700		
	No.9	13.5	710	No.9	15.0	807	19,500		

* Over SAAMI MAX OAL

SHOOTER'S LOG

(RIFLE LOADS)



The .45 Colt carbines are another example of Americans' affinity for a handgun and carbine chambered for the same cartridge.

The data shown below are the same loads developed for use in the Ruger Revolver and T/C Contender single-shot handgun.

These loads were fired through a 16½" barrel Winchester Model 94AE carbine.

Our data does not exceed the pressures of .45 ACP +P loads. These loads are intended only for use in modern carbines chambered for the .45 Colt cartridge.

.45 COLT CARBINE

Gun	WIN 94 AE	Max Length	1.285"
Barrel Length	16½"	Trim Length	1.265"
Primer	CCI 300	OAL Max	1.600"
Case	WW	OAL Min	1.550"

Bullet	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS				Cartridge Length	Comment
	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.	C.U.P.		
215 (L) SWC/GC	N100	8.1	1125	N100	9.0	1276	20,700	1.550"	Penny's
	No.5	12.2	1189	No.5	13.6	1351	20,800		
	No.7	14.9	1161	No.7	16.6	1342	20,900		
225 (L) SWC	N100	7.9	1121	N100	8.8	1274	20,800	1.575"	
	No.5	12.2	1166	No.5	13.6	1348	21,400		
	No.7	14.8	1173	No.7	16.4	1333	21,000		
230 (L) RN	N100	7.7	1062	N100	8.6	1207	20,300	1.600"	CP
	No.5	12.2	1171	No.5	13.5	1331	20,900		
	No.7	14.6	1148	No.7	16.2	1304	20,600		
240 (L) SWC	N100	7.6	1054	N100	8.4	1232	20,300	1.570"	Clemens
	No.5	11.1	1121	No.5	12.3	1274	20,000		
	No.7	14.1	1163	No.7	15.7	1322	20,600		
255 (L) SWC	N100	7.3	1035	N100	8.1	1176	20,200	1.600"	LY452424
	No.5	10.6	1037	No.5	11.8	1178	18,200		
	No.7	13.6	1093	No.7	15.1	1242	19,700		
	No.9	15.8	1101	No.9	17.6	1251	20,100		

.45 COLT - ACCURATE POWDERS

(RIFLE LOADS)

Bullet	START LOADS Powder	Grains	Vel.	MAXIMUM LOADS Powder	Grains	Vel.	C.U.P.	Cartridge Length	Comment
280 (L) TC	N100	6.9	951	N100	7.7	1081	19,100	1.650"	* LBT
	No.5	9.9	971	No.5	11.0	1103	18,300		
	No.7	12.6	1128	No.7	14.0	1262	19,000		
	No.9	15.8	1198	No.9	17.5	1361	19,300		
300 (L) FN	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.585"	D&J
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	1005	No.7	13.0	1142	19,200		
	No.9	13.5	1001	No.9	15.0	1138	17,600		
SRA 200 FPJ	N100	8.3	1136	N100	9.2	1291	19,300	1.585"	
	No.5	13.1	1234	No.5	14.6	1402	20,000		
	No.7	14.8	1083	No.7	16.4	1231	15,300		
HDY 230 RN FMJ	N100	7.8	1067	N100	8.7	1213	19,800	1.600"	*
	No.5	11.7	1117	No.5	13.0	1209	18,600		
	No.7	13.9	1076	No.7	15.4	1223	18,500		
SRA 240 JHC	N100	7.7	1030	N100	8.5	1170	20,100	1.590"	
	No.5	11.7	1067	No.5	13.0	1212	18,300		
	No.7	14.0	1081	No.7	15.5	1228	20,400		
NOS 250 JHP	N100	7.5	967	N100	8.3	1099	19,300	1.585"	
	No.5	10.9	983	No.5	12.1	1117	18,100		
	No.7	13.7	1058	No.7	15.2	1202	19,600		
SPR 260 JHP	N100	7.3	950	N100	8.1	1080	19,700	1.585"	
	No.5	10.7	1000	No.5	11.9	1136	19,300		
	No.7	13.6	1046	No.7	15.0	1189	19,400		
SPR 300 SP	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.585"	
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	900	No.7	13.0	1023	20,300		
	No.9	13.5	906	No.9	15.0	1030	19,200		
HDY 300 XTP	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.580"	
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	908	No.7	13.0	1030	20,200		
	No.9	13.5	956	No.9	15.0	1086	19,500		

* Over SAAMI Maximum OAL

SHOOTER'S LOG

.45 COLT - ALLIANT POWDERS

	STARTING LOADS				MAXIMUM LOADS			
BULLET	POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	CUP	POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	CUP
185 GR.	Unique	8.5	912	11,400	Unique	9.5	1001	14,000
	Bullseye	6.0	859	12,000	Bullseye	7.0	976	14,900
200 GR.	Unique	8.0	838	11,600	Unique	9.0	883	14,400
	Bullseye	5.5	821	12,100	Bullseye	6.5	892	15,000
225-230 GR.	Unique	7.5	759	12,400	Unique	8.5	829	15,100
	Bullseye	5.0	744	12,000	Bullseye	6.0	824	15,400
240-250 GR.	Unique	7.0	720	11,800	Unique	8.0	788	14,900
	Green Dot	6.5	729	13,000	Green Dot	7.5	800	15,600
260 GR.	Unique	7.0	709	12,000	Unique	8.0	770	15,500
	Green Dot	6.0	698	12,600	Green Dot	7.0	756	15,000
275 GR.	Unique	7.0	667	13,100	Unique	7.5	705	15,200
	Green Dot	5.5	636	13,000	Green Dot	6.5	711	16,000
300 GR.	Unique	6.0	634	13,100	Unique	7.0	689	16,000

NEVER **EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.**

(Source: Hodgdon Reloading Manual # 26)

45 COLT

Dating back to 1873, the 45 Colt joins the 44 WCF and the 45-70 as the longest surviving centerfire cartridges that are still chambered in regular production handguns and rifles.

In the early days, the standard barrel groove diameter for the 45 Colt was .454 inch. That was changed to .451 to .452 inch after World War II. Unfortunately, reloading dies were a bit slow to catch up, and as late as early 1980, dies failed to size the case neck enough to hold a more modern .451 or .452 inch bullet. Moreover, cylinder throat diameters in Colt sixguns have remained .456 to .457 inch in deference to those old .454 to .455 inch swaged lead bullets that were loaded over black powder.

The net result is an inside neck diameter of .449 inch is needed to hold .451 to .452 inch bullets and something close to .453 inch to provide a proper grip on cast or swaged lead bullets sized to .454 or .455 inch. Either way, the case is still big, and small doses of fast burning powder tend to wander around inside the case, causing wide velocity variations. To eliminate velocity spread problems with light charges use TITEGROUP. This powder was designed to be used in large cases with light charges and still maintain uniform velocities no matter what the powder position.

Two sets of data follow – one for standard and early Colts and one for modern revolvers and single shots. Only those listed should be used with the higher pressure data.

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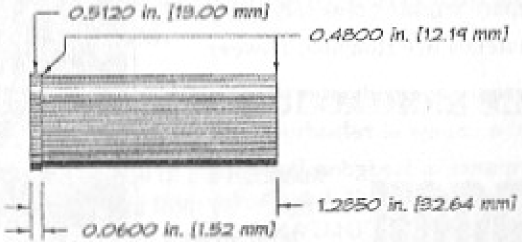

Case: **WINCHESTER**
Barrel: **7.25"**
Twist: **1:16"**
Trim: **1.280"**
Primer: **WINCHESTER LP**

HODGDON

	STARTING LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS		
POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	PRESSURE	GRS.	VEL.	PRESSURE
BULLET: 160 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.480"**
UNIVERSAL	6.5	798	7,400 CUP	9.5	1197	12,900 CUP
HP-38	6.5	917	7,700 CUP	9.0	1177	13,800 CUP
TITEGROUP	6.0	932	6,000 CUP	7.0	1051	9,100 CUP
CLAYS	5.0	907	7,500 CUP	6.4	1083	13,500 CUP
BULLET: 180.GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.540"**
UNIVERSAL	6.5	791	7,100 CUP	9.2	1161	13,900 CUP
HP-38	6.0	838	6,500 CUP	8.2	1087	13,900 CUP
TITEGROUP	6.0	918	8,600 CUP	6.9	1020	10,900 CUP
CLAYS	4.8	840	7,900 CUP	6.0	1016	13,800 CUP
BULLET: 200 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.600"**
UNIVERSAL	6.4	749	5,700 CUP	8.8	1067	13,600 CUP
HP-38	5.9	761	5,800 CUP	8.0	1002	13,800 CUP
TITEGROUP	6.5	933	9,300 CUP	7.7	1050	12,700 CUP
CLAYS	4.6	777	5,900 CUP	5.9	931	13,100 CUP
BULLET: 200 GR. HDY XTP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.600"**
HS-6	11.7	994	9,700 CUP	13.0	1111	13,900 CUP
UNIVERSAL	8.0	915	9,600 CUP	9.0	1068	13,900 CUP
HP-38	7.8	956	11,000 CUP	8.7	1048	14,000 CUP
TITEGROUP	6.7	899	9,600 CUP	7.5	989	12,700 CUP
BULLET: 215 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.650"**
UNIVERSAL	6.8	777	6,300 CUP	8.6	1001	13,800 CUP
HP-38	5.9	758	5,900 CUP	7.8	965	13,500 CUP
TITEGROUP	6.2	881	8,600 CUP	7.2	983	12,100 CUP
CLAYS	4.6	754	6,400 CUP	5.7	889	13,400 CUP
BULLET: 230 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.580"**
UNIVERSAL	6.5	761	7,600 CUP	8.1	975	13,800 CUP
HP-38	5.8	738	7,300 CUP	7.3	941	13,700 CUP
TITEGROUP	5.8	857	10,300 CUP	6.5	934	13,000 CUP
CLAYS	4.4	734	7,600 CUP	5.4	865	13,900 CUP
BULLET: 250 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.600"**
HS-6	9.0	787	7,800 CUP	10.5	946	13,300 CUP
UNIVERSAL	6.5	742	9,200 CUP	7.8	941	13,000 CUP
HP-38	5.8	785	9,100 CUP	7.1	916	13,900 CUP
TITEGROUP	5.5	810	10,000 CUP	6.2	881	13,000 CUP
CLAYS	4.2	713	8,500 CUP	5.1	817	13,400 CUP

HODGDON CONTINUED

POWDER	STARTING LOADS GRS.	VEL.	PRESSURE	MAXIMUM LOADS GRS.	VEL.	PRESSURE
BULLET: 250 GR. HDY XTP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.595"**
HS-6	9.7	743	9,700 CUP	10.8	862	13,500 CUP
UNIVERSAL	7.5	705	10,300 CUP	8.5	856	14,000 CUP
HP-38	6.5	692	10,500 CUP	7.3	797	14,000 CUP
TITEGROUP	5.5	739	9,700 CUP	6.3	830	12,700 CUP
BULLET: 260 GR. SPR GDHP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.595"**
HS-6	9.7	759	10,600 CUP	10.7	865	14,000 CUP
UNIVERSAL	7.0	661	9,400 CUP	8.0	813	14,000 CUP
HP-38	6.5	722	12,000 CUP	7.1	787	14,000 CUP
TITEGROUP	5.5	661	8,300 CUP	6.3	797	12,500 CUP
BULLET: 300 GR. SIE JFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.670"**
HS-6	9.0	616	9,600 CUP	10.0	730	13,700 CUP
UNIVERSAL	6.6	593	11,200 CUP	7.3	700	13,700 CUP
TITEGROUP	5.2	578	11,300 CUP	5.8	682	12,900 CUP

NEVER **EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.**

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45 COLT (RUGER, FREEDOM ARMS & T/C ONLY)

Case: **WINCHESTER**
Barrel: **7.25"**
Twist: **1:16"**
Trim: **1.280"**
Primer: **WINCHESTER LP**

HODGDON

POWDER	STARTING LOADS GRS.	VEL.	PRESSURE	MAXIMUM LOADS GRS.	VEL.	PRESSURE
BULLET: 240 GR. SIE JHC			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.600"**
H4227	20.0	1169	20,100 CUP	26.0	1413	30,000 CUP
H110	27.2	1463	27,900 CUP	28.0	1532	30,000 CUP
BULLET: 250 GR. HDY XTP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.600"**
H4227	20.0	1150	23,500 CUP	24.6	1343	30,300 CUP
H110	25.7	1398	27,000 CUP	26.5	1455	29,800 CUP
BULLET: 260 GR. NOS PART			**DIA. .451"**			**C.O.L. 1.650"**
H4227	22.0	1064	21,000 CUP	23.5	1299	29,800 CUP
H110	23.5	1351	27,700 CUP	24.0	1374	30,100 CUP
BULLET: 300 GR. SPR JFP			**DIA. .451"**			**C.O.L. 1.650"**
H4227	19.0	1051	23,600 CUP	22.3	1202	29,900 CUP
H110	21.8	1191	26,700 CUP	22.2	1198	30,100 CUP

NEVER **EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.**

.45 COLT - IMR POWDERS

IMR

CASE: REMINGTON **BARREL: 7.25"** **PRIMER: REMINGTON 2 1/2**

BULLET: 250 GR. REM LEAD **DIA. .454"** **C.O.L. 1.600"**

IMR 4227	17.7	890	14,000 CUP
"HI-SKOR" 800-X	9.5	915	13,700 CUP
SR 4756	10.0	885	13,500 CUP
SR 7625	8.7	895	13,900 CUP
PB	7.2	830	13,600 CUP
"HI-SKOR" 700-X	6.3	815	13,700 CUP

NEVER **EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.**

= NOTICE =

The information presented is based upon results obtained in our ballistics laboratory. Safe loading practices should be observed at all times. Since IMR Powder Company has no control over the circumstances of loading, we assume no liability for the results obtained, and we guarantee only that our powder meets our manufacturing standards.

.45 COLT - SCOT POWDERS

Barrel Length: 6" / Case: Hornady / Overall Length Minimum: 1.560"

ROYAL SCOT

Powder Charge	*Bullet Weight & Type*	*Muzzle Velocity*
6.0 grains	230 grain Lead Round Nose	882 fps
6.3 grains	255 grain Lead Semi-Wadcutter	839 fps

PEARL SCOT

Powder Charge	*Bullet Weight & Type*	*Muzzle Velocity*
8.8 grains	230 grain Lead Round Nose	840 fps
8.6 grains	255 grain Lead Semi-Wadcutter	852 fps

SOLO 1000

Powder Charge	*Bullet Weight & Type*	*Muzzle Velocity*
6.7 grains	230 grain Lead Round Nose	904 fps
6.3 grains	255 grain Lead Semi-Wadcutter	841 fps

SOLO 1250

Powder Charge	*Bullet Weight & Type*	*Muzzle Velocity*
8.9 grains	230 grain Lead Round Nose	907 fps
8.6 grains	255 grain Lead Semi-Wadcutter	893 fps

SOLO 1500

Powder Charge	*Bullet Weight & Type*	*Muzzle Velocity*
11.1 grains	230 grain Lead Round Nose	898 fps
11.0 grains	255 grain Lead Semi-Wadcutter	900 fps

.45 COLT - WINCHESTER POWDERS

WINCHESTER

CASE: WINCHESTER **BARREL: 5.5"** **PRIMER: WINCHESTER LP**

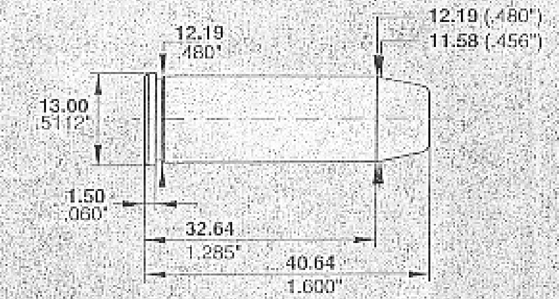
BULLET: 255 GR. WIN LEAD	DIA. .455"	C.O.L. 1.600" MAX	
231	7.1	875	13,000 CUP

NEVER **EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.**

.45 COLT - VIHTAVUORI POWDERS

.45 Colt

CIP max, dimensions in millimetres; SAAMI in inches



Country of origin:	**USA**
Year of introduction:	**1875**
Primer:	**Large Pistol**
Max. bullet diameter:	**11.58 mm (.456")**
Max. cartridge length:	**40.64 mm (1.600")**
Max. shell length:	**32.64 mm (1.285"), trim to 32.50 mm (1.275")**
Max. CIP pressure:	**110 MPa (15900 psi)**
Max. SAAMI pressure:	**15900 CUP**

This is probably the world's most famous handgun cartridge. It was developed for the Colt revolver Model 1873, or Peacemaker, or Single Action Army, or Sixshooter, or Equalizer etc. etc. This was the first service breechloading handgun for the U.S. Army, but of course, it became known in the hands of civilians as "The Gun That Won The West".

Because the smokeless powder was not yet intended, this cartridge started as a black powder round, which is also noticeable through the low maximum pressure. The generous powder space could facilitate much higher pressures and velocities, but there are still too many fragile old guns and cases in the circulation. Both SAAMI and CIP have seen it fit to limit the .45 Long Colt loadings to a conservative level.

Today the round is mostly in nostalgic fun and plinking use, although some people do hunt with it. But the reasons must still be nostalgic because modern hunting pistols like T/C Contender, or modern double action revolvers like Ruger Redhawk, are chambered for cartridges way more efficient than a round from 120 years ago.

For the history buffs we list some loads here which all remain under the CIP maximum pressure level of 110 MPa.

.45 COLT - VIHTAVUORI POWDERS

.45 Colt

TEST COMPONENTS:

Test barrel:	150 mm (6"), 1 in 16" twist, manufactured to meet CIP minimum dimensions.
Primers:	Vihtavuori No. 48
Cases:	Remington, trim-to length 32.50 mm (1.279")

Reloading Data, English Units:

Bullet				Powder	Starting Load			Maximum Load		
Weight [grs]	Type	Mfg.	O.A.L. [in.]	Type	Weight [grs]	Velocity [fps]	Pressure [psi]	Weight [grs]	Velocity [fps]	Pressure [psi]
180	Pb-SWC	Intercast	1.575	N320	8.2	1047	11600	9.0	1138	15500
				N330	11.0	1179	10900	12.2	1374	15500
				N340	11.1	1186	10900	12.4	1389	15500
				N350	13.0	1235	11600	14.4	1405	15500
185	HPXTP	Hornady	1.559	N320	9.3	1198	10200	10.2	1312	15500
200	FPJ	Sierra	1.535	N320	9.0	1132	10700	9.9	1247	15500
	Pb-SWC	Hornady	1.579	N320	8.5	1165	11600	9.3	1220	15500
				N340	10.3	1148	10600	11.3	1263	15200
230	Pb-LRN	Hornady	1.579	N320	7.7	1033	10400	8.3	1115	15500
				N340	9.7	1083	12300	10.5	1181	15500

▨ **INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE WITH CAUTION!**
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED

POWDER BURNING RATE CHART

Current Canister Grade Powders in order of approximate burning rate.
(R1 being the fastest, 748 the slowest)
This list is approximate only and not to be used for developing loads.

1. **R-1**, Norma
2. **N31**, Vihtavuori
3. **TITEWAD**, Accurate Arms
4. **RED DOT**, Alliant
5. **CLAYS**, Hodgdon
6. **"HI-SKOR" 700-X**, IMR Co.
7. **BULLSEYE**, Alliant
8. **TITEGROUP**, Hodgdon
9. **American Select**, Alliant
10. **SOLO 1000**, Accurate Arms
11. **GREEN DOT**, Alliant
12. **INTERNATIONAL**, Hodgdon
13. **PB**, IMR Co.
14. **N320**, Vihtavuori
15. **WST**, Winchester
16. **No.2**, Accurate Arms
17. **SR 7625**, IMR Co.
18. **HP-38**, Hodgdon
19. **231**, Winchester
20. **UNIQUE**, Alliant
21. **UNIVERSAL**, Hodgdon
22. **Power Pistol**, Alliant
23. **N330**, Vihtavuori
24. **HERCO**, Alliant
25. **WSF**, Winchester
26. **N340**, Vihtavuori
27. **"HI-SKOR" 800-X**, IMR Co.
28. **SR4756**, IMR Co.
29. **NO. 5**, Accurate Arms.
30. **HS-6**, Hodgdon
31. **3N37**, Vihtavuori.
32. **N350**, Vihtavuori
33. **BLUE DOT**, Alliant
34. **No. 7**, Accurate Arms
35. **2400**, Alliant
36. **No. 9**, Accurate Arms
37. **R123**, Norma
38. **N110**, Vihtavuori
39. **H110**, Hodgdon
40. **296**, Winchester
41. **IMR4227**, IMR Co.
42. **H4227**, Hodgdon
43. **SR4759**, IMR Co.
44. **1680**, Accurate Arms
45. **200**, Norma
46. **Reloader 7**, Alliant
47. **IMR4198**, IMR Co.
48. **H4198**, Hodgdon
49. **N120**, Vihtavuori
50. **H322**, Hodgdon
51. **2015 BR**, Accurate Arms
52. **N130**, Vihtavuori
53. **IMR3031**, IMR Co.
54. **N133**, Vihtavuori
55. **H335**, Hodgdon
56. **N135**, Vihtavuori
57. **2230**, Accurate Arms
58. **2460**, Accurate Arms
59. **H4895**, Hodgdon
60. **IMR4895**, IMR Co.
61. **RELODER-12**, Alliant
62. **IMR-4320**, IMR Co.
63. **3100**, Accurate Arms
64. **IMR 4064**, IMR Co.
65. **202**, Norma
66. **2520**, Accurate Arms
67. **RELODER-15**, Alliant
68. **N140**, Vihtavuori
69. **VARGET**, Hodgdon
70. **748**, Winchester

Reloading Data Introduction:

The data listed in this section have been tested by our technicians and found to be safe when loaded with our test components and fired (under our laboratory controlled conditions) in our testing equipment. Since Lyman Products Corporation has no control over the manufacture of the various components listed, the actual loading, choice or condition of the firearms and components used, no responsibility for use of this data is implied or assumed.

Components:

The reader should bear in mind that the components listed are not of Lyman manufacture. Therefore, it is impossible that production changes affecting ballistic performance can occur at any time without our knowledge. If there is ever a question as to the correctness of the component specified, write to its manufacturer.

Starting Load:

It is essential that the reader begin with the suggested weight of powder listed in this bracket and work up slowly (following load development precautions) to his best performing load. The novice should use only the "starting load" for a period of time until he builds confidence and experience. Never decrease this charge as an increase in pressure could be encountered.

Maximum Load:

All loads which are listed as maximum were tested and classified as maximum by our technicians in accordance with our laboratory standards. **Under no circumstances should these loads be exceeded**, nor should they be quickly accepted by the reader as a safe working maximum for his particular rifle or pistol.

Many reloaders misinterpret the meaning of the "maximum load." They wrongly assume that if a high pressure load proved safe in a test laboratory then it is equally safe under any and all conditions. This is not true. The reader must start with the "starting load" and work up his load carefully. Working with his particular firearm and component combination, he may encounter signs of excess pressure before he reaches the maximum charge listed.

The technician classifies a load as maximum after carefully considering many aspects of its ballistic performance. **The maximum average pressure of the load is not the only criteria.** Often a load having an acceptable maximum average pressure will be rejected (or reduced) due to its erratic performance. Accuracy must also be considered, particularly when dealing with cast lead alloy bullets. In all instances, the maximum listing represents what our technicians consider to be the maximum working combination for the bullet, powder and caliber listed. These loads do not exceed SAAMI standards.

Accuracy Loads:

When a load is noted as such in the data tables proper, it means that the given combination of components produced the most uniform internal ballistics of any load tested utilizing that particular bullet design.

Unless noted in "Comments," the accuracy load was not fired at targets. The load, however, does have a high potential--assuming all external factors are optimun--for producing outstanding accuracy since uniform internal ballistics are critical to accuracy on target. You cannot have one without the other.

Test Parameters:

Velocities shown were taken at fifteen feet and not corrected to the muzzle.

Each test string began with a clean dry barrel and consisted of ten shots.

Loads exhibiting erratic internal ballistics were not persued.

We had no problem with leading in any of our testing.

Bullets:

Bullet numbers are listed in the introductory specifications for each cartridge and in the headline above the appropriate data block--along with an illustration of that particular bullet.

Please note these bullets are artists' rendering. Comparing your bullet against the drawing could reveal minor differences. Furthermore, minor changes are sometimes made to bullets. These drawings, which appear throughout the data sections, are for general reference only and are not intended to be a precise representation.

Bullet alloy is noted as is the exact weight of each tested bullet.

Not all cast bullets within a given caliber are intended to perform equally. We have used them in the most appropriate chamberings.

Powders:

We have limited our testing to those powders which are manufactured in the United States and which are readily available to the consumer. The following brands are listed: Dupont (now IMR), Winchester, Hercules, Alcan, Hodgdon and Gearhart-Owen.

Compressed Loads:

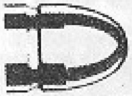
All compressed loads are indicated with a +. Depending upon the volume of the specific cartridge case used by the reader, he may, or may not, have difficulty starting bullets in such loads. If the bullet will not start, reduce the load sufficiently so that 1/10" of space remains in the case neck. Start the bullet into the case and use whatever additional pressure is required to fully seat the bullet. Failure to comply could result in a bulged case.

Filler Wads:

Dacron filler wads in the form of 1/4-inch thick batting were used in conjunction with cast bullet loads, where indicated. This material can be purchased in most yard-goods stores. It should be cut into squares, which seal the case.

When developing a load, if a wad is desired, its should be used from the beginning as the charge weight is increased. It should never be added as an afterthought, once a maximum load has been established, since its presence could result in a pressure increase of 2,000 CUP or more.

.45 Colt - RCBS Bullets



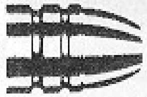
45-230-RN

Wt. 225 GR.

Dia. .452"

Lube: Pistol

POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL	POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL
SR **4759**	23.0	1284	**HS6**	*13.9	1286
	21.0	1177		*12.9	1198
IMR **4227**	*21.5	1204	**231**	10.0	1242
	*19.5	1089		9.0	1128
Blue Dot	14.9	1232	**Bullseye**	9.0	1107
	13.9	1131		8.0	976



45-250-FN

Wt. 250 GR.

Dia. .452"

Lube: Pistol

POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL	POWDER	WT. IN GRAINS	MUZ VEL
2400	*17.9	1242	**231**	9.3	1085
	*15.9	1121		8.8	1022
HS7	*15.0	1239	**Bullseye**	9.0	1123
	*13.0	1088		8.0	992
SR **7625**	10.0	1242	**700X**	8.7	1135
	9.0	1113		8.2	1062

*DENOTES USE OF CCI #350 MAGNUM PRIMER

.45 Colt - Accurate Powders

Introduction

There has been a re-evaluation of the criteria for selecting data for inclusion. This means there will be some disagreement with previous data. The data in this guide takes precedence over **all** prior publications. ***Previous editions of this loading guide should be discarded.***

For instance, we left out load combinations that were 'position sensitive'. This is what occurs when the load density is low. Velocity with the powder at the bullet is different from the velocity with the powder at the primer. More of these were noted with the ball propellants than with the extruded propellants.

In light of the growth of IPSC shooting, 38 Super Auto loads that make the 'major' classification (bullet weight x velocity = 175,000) are identified. While we have tested many combinations of components in 9mm Luger to attempt to meet 'major' requirements, we have not been able to find a load that makes the power floor for 'major' without exceeding SAAMI pressure recommendations. And while we were able to find loads for 38 Super Auto, they were not with lighter bullets. Turn to the data section for specific details.

In the charge tables, the 'START' charge listed for each load is our suggested beginning point with the components listed. There is the possibility that changing the named components could cause the maximum charge to be excessive, thus a reduction of the charge would be necessary. Some batches of military brass may require reducing the maximum charge by 8-12% to keep chamber pressure in line.

If you find signs of excessive pressure while using loads in this loading guide, STOP TESTING and verify all data and loading procedures. If they seem to be in order, check with our lab facility before proceeding.

Charge weights were obtained using industry standard pressure barrels. When time permitted, off-the-shelf weapons were used to obtain velocity figures. The guns used are noted.

In reloading, the prime concern should always be SAFETY. **Always** wear eye protection when reloading, even when working with the 'non-volatile' components. **Always** keep the reloading area clean. **Never** have more than one propellant within easy reach at any given time. Avoid having similar looking bullets of different weights on the bench at the same time. Read the safety notes before loading.

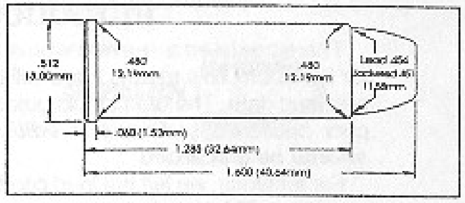
We have not found magnum primers to offer any particular advantage with our handgun powders. But, there are some rifle cartridges where they were used.

Handgun loads using the slower powders (No.7, No.9. and 1680) require heavy crimp and high bullet pull to insure consistency - particularly with cast bullet loads or in extremely cold weather. Be sure your dies are capable of this, otherwise the consistency of the load will be affected.

In the text, bullet weights for cast bullets - identified by (L) are actual weights, not the nominal weights.

The .45 Colt was introduced as one of the first cartridges for the Model P Colt Single Action Army revolver.

This cartridge was adopted by the U.S. Army in 1875 and served as their official military handgun cartridge for 17 years.



As originally developed, the .45 Colt was loaded with 40 grains of FFg powder with a 255 grain lead bullet for about 810 FPS.

The .45 Colt has been around for 120 years and still has a loyal following. It has become popular to fire higher pressure loads in modern revolvers such as the Ruger Blackhawk. Firing such loads in the blackpowder revolvers and replicas have caused disastrous results.

The large case capacity of the .45 Colt combined with its low SAAMI Maximum Average Pressure of 14,000 C.U.P produces a cartridge that cannot efficiently utilize most modern smokeless propellants. **Accurate Nitro 100** is an excellent choice to produce consistent ballistics at low pressures due to its low bulk density and excellent ignition characteristics.

.45 COLT

Gun	DOUGLAS	Max Length	1.285"
Barrel Length	7½"	Trim Length	1.265"
Primer	CCI 300	OAL Max	1.600"
Case	WW	OAL Min	1.550"

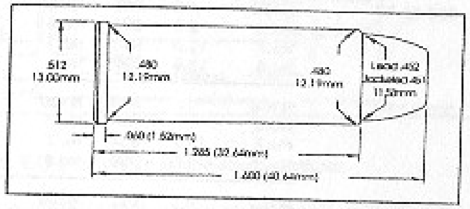
	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS				Cartridge	
Bullet	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.	C.U.P.	Length	Comment
215 (L) SWC	N100	6.3	846	N100	7.0	961	14,000	1.575"	CP
	No.5	10.9	904	No.5	12.1	1027	12,500		
225 (L) FN	N100	6.2	821	N100	6.9	933	13,600	1.620"	* CP
	No.5	10.9	909	No.5	12.1	1033	13,600		
240 (L) SWC	N100	5.9	799	N100	6.6	908	14,000	1.570"	Clements
	No.5	10.2	869	No.5	11.3	988	14,000		
255 (L) SWC	N100	5.6	780	N100	6.2	886	13,400	1.600"	LY454424
	No.5	9.4	846	No.5	10.4	961	13,400		
SRA 185 JHP	N100	6.8	944	N100	7.6	1073	14,000	1.575"	
	No.5	10.8	946	No.5	12.0	1075	12,200		
HDY 200 XTP	N100	6.4	878	N100	7.1	998	13,900	1.595"	
	No.5	10.4	908	No.5	11.5	1032	13,400		
HDY 230 XTP	N100	6.1	793	N100	6.8	901	14,000	1.595"	
	No.5	9.9	853	No.5	11.0	969	14,000		
SRA 240 JHP	N100	6.0	774	N100	6.7	880	14,000	1.590"	
	No.5	9.5	854	No.5	10.5	970	14,000		
HDY 250 XTP	N100	6.0	616	N100	6.7	700	14,000	1.570"	
	No.5	9.9	704	No.5	11.0	800	14,000		
SPR 260 JHP	N100	5.9	598	N100	6.5	679	13,300	1.600"	
	No.5	9.5	671	No.5	10.5	762	14,000		

* Over SAAMI MAX OAL

(RUGER & T/C LOADS ONLY)

.45 COLT [RUGER & T/C ONLY]

This loading data was developed in response to shooters' request for more powerful loads for use in Ruger and T/C handguns.



These loads develop the same pressures as +P .45 ACP loads. Despite occasional recommendations by other sources, do not handload .45 Colt ammo to .44 Magnum pressure levels. The .45 Colt brass is not as strong as .44 Magnum cases.

These loads must not be used in older, weaker firearms but should prove entirely satisfactory in the firearms for which they are intended.

45 COLT (RUGER & T/C ONLY)

Gun	DOUGLAS	Max Length	1.295"
Barrel Length	7½"	Trim Length	1.265"
Primer	CCI 300	OAL Max	1.600"
Case	WW	OAL Min	1.550"

	START LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS				Cartridge	
Bullet	Powder	Grains	Vel.	Powder	Grains	Vel.	C.U.P.	Length	Comment
215 (L) SWC GC	N100	8.1	1023	N100	9.0	1162	20,700	1.550"	CP
	No.5	12.2	1090	No.5	13.6	1239	20,800		
	No.7	14.9	1104	No.7	16.6	1254	20,900		
225 (L) SWC	N100	7.9	1005	N100	8.8	1142	20,800	1.575"	CP
	No.5	12.2	1076	No.5	13.6	1223	21,400		
	No.7	14.8	1087	No.7	16.4	1235	21,000		
230 (L) RN	N100	7.7	965	N100	8.6	1097	20,300	1.600"	CP
	No.5	12.2	1065	No.5	13.5	1210	20,900		
	No.7	14.6	1062	No.7	16.2	1207	20,600		
240 (L) SWC	N100	7.6	954	N100	8.4	1084	20,300	1.570"	Clements
	No.5	11.1	1010	No.5	12.3	1148	20,000		
	No.7	14.1	1052	No.7	15.7	1196	20,600		
255 (L) SWC	N100	7.3	928	N100	8.1	1055	20,200	1.600"	LY454424
	No.5	10.6	950	No.5	11.8	1080	18,200		
	No.7	13.6	1010	No.7	15.1	1148	19,700		
	No.9	15.8	1038	No.9	17.6	1180	20,100		

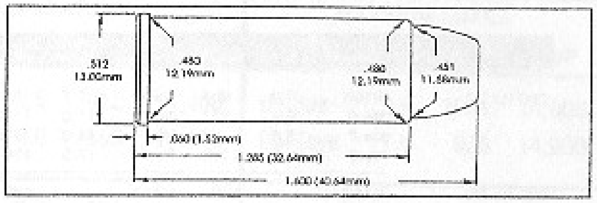
(RUGER & T/C LOADS ONLY)

Bullet	START LOADS Powder	Grains	Vel.	MAXIMUM LOADS Powder	Grains	Vel.	C.U.P.	Cartridge Length	Comment
280 (L) TC	N100	6.9	865	N100	7.7	983	19,100	1.650"	* LBT
	No.5	9.9	891	No.5	11.0	1012	18,300		
	No.7	12.6	940	No.7	14.0	1058	19,000		
	No.9	15.8	998	No.9	17.5	1134	19,300		
300 (L) FN	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.585"	D&J
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	804	No.7	13.0	914	19,200		
	No.9	13.5	795	No.9	15.0	907	17,600		
SRA 200 FPJ	N100	8.3	1021	N100	9.2	1160	19,300	1.560"	
	No.5	13.1	1120	No.5	14.6	1273	20,000		
	No.7	14.8	1055	No.7	16.4	1199	15,300		
HDY 230 RN FMJ	N100	7.8	933	N100	8.7	1060	19,600	1.600"	
	No.5	11.7	1000	No.5	13.0	1136	18,600		
	No.7	13.9	1018	No.7	15.4	1157	18,500		
SRA 240 JHC	N100	7.7	920	N100	8.5	1045	20,100	1.570"	
	No.5	11.7	970	No.5	13.0	1102	18,300		
	No.7	14.0	1010	No.7	15.5	1148	20,400		
NOS 250 JHP	N100	7.5	887	N100	8.3	1008	19,300	1.585"	
	No.5	10.9	902	No.5	12.1	1025	18,100		
	No.7	13.7	971	No.7	15.2	1103	19,600		
SPR 260 JHP	N100	7.3	862	N100	8.1	980	19,700	1.595"	
	No.5	10.7	900	No.5	11.9	1023	19,300		
	No.7	13.5	953	No.7	15.0	1083	19,400		
SPR 300 SP	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.585"	
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	730	No.7	13.0	830	20,300		
	No.9	13.5	745	No.9	15.0	847	19,200		
HDY 300 XTP	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.580"	
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	693	No.7	13.0	788	20,700		
	No.9	13.5	710	No.9	15.0	807	19,500		

* Over SAAMI MAX OAL

SHOOTER'S LOG

(RIFLE LOADS)



The .45 Colt carbines are another example of Americans' affinity for a handgun and carbine chambered for the same cartridge.

The data shown below are the same loads developed for use in the Ruger Revolver and T/C Contender single-shot handgun.

These loads were fired through a 16½" barrel Winchester Model 94AE carbine.

Our data does not exceed the pressures of .45 ACP +P loads. These loads are intended only for use in modern carbines chambered for the .45 Colt cartridge.

.45 COLT CARBINE

Gun	WIN 94 AE	Max Length	1.285"
Barrel Length	16½"	Trim Length	1.265"
Primer	CCI 300	OAL Max	1.600"
Case	WW	OAL Min	1.550"

Bullet	START LOADS Powder	Grains	Vel.	MAXIMUM LOADS Powder	Grains	Vel.	C.U.P.	Cartridge Length	Comment
215 (L) SWC/GC	N100	8.1	1125	N100	9.0	1275	20,700	1.550"	Penny's
	No.5	12.2	1189	No.5	13.6	1351	20,800		
	No.7	14.9	1161	No.7	16.6	1342	20,900		
225 (L) SWC	N100	7.9	1121	N100	8.8	1274	20,800	1.575"	
	No.5	12.2	1166	No.5	13.6	1348	21,400		
	No.7	14.8	1173	No.7	16.4	1333	21,000		
230 (L) RN	N100	7.7	1062	N100	8.6	1207	20,300	1.600"	CP
	No.5	12.2	1171	No.5	13.5	1331	20,900		
	No.7	14.6	1148	No.7	16.2	1304	20,600		
240 (L) SWC	N100	7.6	1084	N100	8.4	1232	20,300	1.570"	Clements
	No.5	11.1	1121	No.5	12.3	1274	20,000		
	No.7	14.1	1163	No.7	15.7	1322	20,600		
255 (L) SWC	N100	7.3	1035	N100	8.1	1176	20,200	1.600"	LY452424
	No.5	10.6	1037	No.5	11.8	1178	18,200		
	No.7	13.6	1093	No.7	15.1	1242	19,700		
	No.9	15.8	1101	No.9	17.6	1251	20,100		

(RIFLE LOADS)

Bullet	START LOADS Powder	Grains	Vel.	MAXIMUM LOADS Powder	Grains	Vel.	C.U.P.	Cartridge Length	Comment
280 (L) TC	N100	6.9	961	N100	7.7	1081	19,100	1.650"	* LBT
	No.5	9.9	971	No.5	11.0	1103	18,300		
	No.7	12.6	1128	No.7	14.0	1262	19,000		
	No.9	15.6	1198	No.9	17.5	1361	19,300		
300 (L) FN	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.585"	D&J
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	1005	No.7	13.0	1142	19,200		
	No.9	13.5	1001	No.9	15.0	1138	17,600		
SRA 200 FPJ	N100	8.3	1136	N100	9.2	1291	19,300	1.585"	
	No.5	13.1	1234	No.5	14.6	1402	20,000		
	No.7	14.8	1083	No.7	16.4	1231	15,300		
HDY 230 RN FMJ	N100	7.8	1067	N100	8.7	1213	19,600	1.600"	*
	No.5	11.7	1117	No.5	13.0	1269	18,600		
	No.7	13.9	1076	No.7	15.4	1223	18,500		
SRA 240 JHC	N100	7.7	1030	N100	8.5	1170	20,100	1.590"	
	No.5	11.7	1067	No.5	13.0	1212	18,300		
	No.7	14.0	1081	No.7	15.5	1228	20,400		
NOS 250 JHP	N100	7.5	967	N100	8.3	1099	19,300	1.585"	
	No.5	10.9	983	No.5	12.1	1117	18,100		
	No.7	13.7	1058	No.7	15.2	1202	19,600		
SPR 260 JHP	N100	7.3	950	N100	8.1	1080	19,700	1.585"	
	No.5	10.7	1000	No.5	11.9	1136	19,300		
	No.7	13.5	1046	No.7	15.0	1189	19,400		
SPR 300 SP	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.585"	
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	900	No.7	13.0	1023	20,300		
	No.9	13.5	906	No.9	15.0	1030	19,200		
HDY 300 XTP	N100		N/R	N100		N/R		1.580"	
	No.5		N/R	No.5		N/R			
	No.7	11.7	908	No.7	13.0	1030	20,200		
	No.9	13.5	956	No.9	15.0	1086	19,500		

* Over SAAMI Maximum OAL

SHOOTER'S LOG

	STARTING LOADS				MAXIMUM LOADS			
BULLET	POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	CUP	POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	CUP
185 GR.	Unique	8.5	912	11,400	Unique	9.5	1001	14,000
	Bullseye	6.0	859	12,000	Bullseye	7.0	976	14,900
200 GR.	Unique	8.0	838	11,600	Unique	9.0	883	14,400
	Bullseye	5.5	821	12,100	Bullseye	6.5	892	15,000
225-230 GR.	Unique	7.5	759	12,400	Unique	8.5	829	15,100
	Bullseye	5.0	744	12,000	Bullseye	6.0	824	15,400
240-250 GR.	Unique	7.0	720	11,800	Unique	8.0	788	14,900
	Green Dot	6.5	729	13,000	Green Dot	7.5	800	15,600
260 GR.	Unique	7.0	709	12,000	Unique	8.0	770	15,500
	Green Dot	6.0	698	12,600	Green Dot	7.0	756	15,000
275 GR.	Unique	7.0	667	13,100	Unique	7.5	705	15,200
	Green Dot	5.5	636	13,000	Green Dot	6.5	711	16,000
300 GR.	Unique	6.0	634	13,100	Unique	7.0	689	16,000

NEVER **EXCEED MAXIMUM LOADS.**

(Source: Hodgdon Reloading Manual # 26)

45 COLT

Dating back to 1873, the 45 Colt joins the 44 WCF and the 45-70 as the longest surviving centerfire cartridges that are still chambered in regular production handguns and rifles.

In the early days, the standard barrel groove diameter for the 45 Colt was .454 inch. That was changed to .451 to .452 inch after World War II. Unfortunately, reloading dies were a bit slow to catch up, and as late as early 1980, dies failed to size the case neck enough to hold a more modern .451 or .452 inch bullet. Moreover, cylinder throat diameters in Colt sixguns have remained .456 to .457 inch in deference to those old .454 to .455 inch swaged lead bullets that were loaded over black powder.

The net result is an inside neck diameter of .449 inch is needed to hold .451 to .452 inch bullets and something close to .453 inch to provide a proper grip on cast or swaged lead bullets sized to .454 or .455 inch. Either way, the case is still big, and small doses of fast burning powder tend to wander around inside the case, causing wide velocity variations. To eliminate velocity spread problems with light charges use TITEGROUP. This powder was designed to be used in large cases with light charges and still maintain uniform velocities no matter what the powder position.

Two sets of data follow – one for standard and early Colts and one for modern revolvers and single shots. Only those listed should be used with the higher pressure data.

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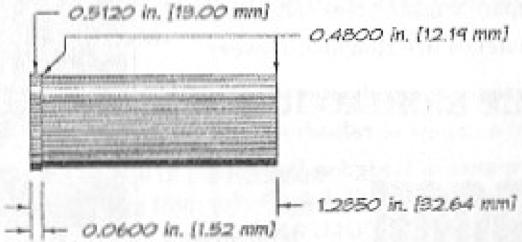

Case: WINCHESTER
Barrel: 7.25"
Twist: 1:16"
Trim: 1.280"
Primer: WINCHESTER LP

HODGDON

	STARTING LOADS			MAXIMUM LOADS		
POWDER	GRS.	VEL.	PRESSURE	GRS.	VEL.	PRESSURE
BULLET: 160 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.480"**
UNIVERSAL	6.5	798	7,400 CUP	9.5	1197	12,900 CUP
HP-38	6.5	917	7,700 CUP	9.0	1177	13,800 CUP
TITEGROUP	6.0	932	6,000 CUP	7.0	1051	9,100 CUP
CLAYS	5.0	907	7,500 CUP	6.4	1083	13,500 CUP
BULLET: 180 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.540"**
UNIVERSAL	6.5	791	7,100 CUP	9.2	1161	13,900 CUP
HP-38	6.0	838	6,500 CUP	8.2	1087	13,900 CUP
TITEGROUP	6.0	918	8,600 CUP	6.9	1020	10,900 CUP
CLAYS	4.8	840	7,900 CUP	6.0	1016	13,800 CUP
BULLET: 200 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.600"**
UNIVERSAL	6.4	749	5,700 CUP	8.8	1067	13,600 CUP
HP-38	5.9	761	5,800 CUP	8.0	1002	13,800 CUP
TITEGROUP	6.5	933	9,300 CUP	7.7	1050	12,700 CUP
CLAYS	4.6	777	5,900 CUP	5.9	931	13,100 CUP
BULLET: 200 GR. HDY XTP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.600"**
HS-6	11.7	994	9,700 CUP	13.0	1111	13,900 CUP
UNIVERSAL	8.0	915	9,600 CUP	9.0	1068	13,900 CUP
HP-38	7.8	956	11,000 CUP	8.7	1048	14,000 CUP
TITEGROUP	6.7	899	9,600 CUP	7.5	989	12,700 CUP
BULLET: 215 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.650"**
UNIVERSAL	6.8	777	6,300 CUP	8.6	1001	13,800 CUP
HP-38	5.9	758	5,900 CUP	7.8	965	13,500 CUP
TITEGROUP	6.2	881	8,600 CUP	7.2	983	12,100 CUP
CLAYS	4.6	754	6,400 CUP	5.7	889	13,400 CUP
BULLET: 230 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.580"**
UNIVERSAL	6.5	761	7,600 CUP	8.1	975	13,800 CUP
HP-38	5.8	738	7,300 CUP	7.3	941	13,700 CUP
TITEGROUP	5.8	857	10,300 CUP	6.5	934	13,000 CUP
CLAYS	4.4	734	7,600 CUP	5.4	865	13,900 CUP
BULLET: 250 GR. CAST LRNFP			**DIA. .452"**			**C.O.L. 1.600"**
HS-6	9.0	787	7,800 CUP	10.5	946	13,300 CUP
UNIVERSAL	6.5	742	9,200 CUP	7.8	941	13,000 CUP
HP-38	5.8	785	9,100 CUP	7.1	916	13,900 CUP
TITEGROUP	5.5	810	10,000 CUP	6.2	881	13,000 CUP
CLAYS	4.2	713	8,500 CUP	5.1	817	13,400 CUP

.45 COLT - VIHTAVUORI POWDERS

.45 Colt

TEST COMPONENTS:

Test barrel: 150 mm (6"), 1 in 16" twist, manufactured to meet CIP minimum dimensions.
Primers: Vihtavuori No. 48
Cases: Remington, trim-to length 32.50 mm (1.279")

Reloading Data, English Units:

Bullet				Powder	Starting Load			Maximum Load		
Weight [grs]	Type	Mfg.	O.A.L. [in.]	Type	Weight [grs]	Velocity [fps]	Pressure [psi]	Weight [grs]	Velocity [fps]	Pressure [psi]
180	Pb-SWC	Intercast	1.575	N320	8.2	1047	11600	9.0	1138	15500
				N330	11.0	1179	10900	12.2	1374	15500
				N340	11.1	1186	10900	12.4	1389	15500
				N350	13.0	1235	11600	14.4	1405	15500
185	HPXTP	Homady	1.559	N320	9.3	1198	10200	10.2	1312	15500
200	FPJ	Sierra	1.535	N320	9.0	1132	10700	9.9	1247	15500
	Pb-SWC	Homady	1.579	N320	8.5	1165	11600	9.3	1220	15500
				N340	10.3	1148	10600	11.3	1263	15200
230	Pb-LRN	Homady	1.579	N320	7.7	1033	10400	8.3	1115	15500
				N340	9.7	1083	12300	10.5	1181	15500

▨ INDICATES MAXIMUM LOAD - USE WITH CAUTION!
LOADS LESS THAN MINIMUM CHARGES SHOWN ARE NOT RECOMMENDED

POWDER BURNING RATE CHART

Current Canister Grade Powders in order of approximate burning rate.
(RI being the fastest, 748 the slowest)
This list is approximate only and not to be used for developing loads.

1. **R-1**, Norma
2. **N31**, Vihtavuori
3. **TITEWAD**, Accurate Arms
4. **RED DOT**, Alliant
5. **CLAYS**, Hodgdon
6. **"HI-SKOR" 700-X**, IMR Co.
7. **BULLSEYE**, Alliant
8. **TITEGROUP**, Hodgdon
9. **American Select**, Alliant
10. **SOLO 1000**, Accurate Arms
11. **GREEN DOT**, Alliant
12. **INTERNATIONAL**, Hodgdon
13. **PB**, IMR Co.
14. **N320**, Vihtavuori
15. **WST**, Winchester
16. **No.2**, Accurate Arms
17. **SR 7625**, IMR Co.
18. **HP-38**, Hodgdon
19. **231**, Winchester
20. **UNIQUE**, Alliant
21. **UNIVERSAL**, Hodgdon
22. **Power Pistol**, Alliant
23. **N330**, Vihtavuori
24. **HERCO**, Alliant
25. **WSF**, Winchester
26. N340, Vihtavuori
27. **"HI-SKOR" 800-X**, IMR Co.
28. **SR4756**, IMR Co.
29. **NO. 5**, Accurate Arms.
30. **HS-6**, Hodgdon
31. **3N37**, Vihtavuori.
32. **N350**, Vihtavuori
33. **BLUE DOT**, Alliant
34. **No. 7**, Accurate Arms
35. **2400**, Alliant
36. **No. 9**, Accurate Arms
37. **R123**, Norma
38. **N110**, Vihtavuori
39. **H110**, Hodgdon
40. **296**, Winchester
41. **IMR4227**, IMR Co.
42. **H4227**, Hodgdon
43. **SR4759**, IMR Co.
44. **1680**, Accurate Arms
45. **200**, Norma
46. **Reloader 7**, Alliant
47. **IMR4198**, IMR Co.
48. **H4198**, Hodgdon
49. **N120**, Vihtavuori
50. **H322**, Hodgdon
51. **2015 BR**, Accurate Arms
52. **N130**, Vihtavuori
53. **IMR3031**, IMR Co.
54. **N133**, Vihtavuori
55. **H335**, Hodgdon
56. **N135**, Vihtavuori
57. **2230**, Accurate Arms
58. **2460**, Accurate Arms
59. **H4895**, Hodgdon
60. **IMR4895**, IMR Co.
61. **RELODER-12**, Alliant
62. **IMR-4320**, IMR Co.
63. **3100**, Accurate Arms
64. **IMR 4064**, IMR Co.
65. **202**, Norma
66. **2520**, Accurate Arms
67. **RELODER-15**, Alliant
68. **N140**, Vihtavuori
69. **VARGET**, Hodgdon
70. **748**, Winchester